

Too little, too late?

Major drug companies announce price cuts for AIDS meds to help poor countries.

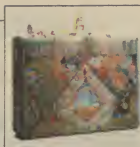
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A friend of all creatures
Frederick Hobson takes
seat on city animal panel.

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Grand funkmaster
Bay Area artist Bruce
Conner at the deYoung.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 21 • 25 May 2000

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

SF Pride announces grand marshal changes

by Katie Szymanski

The grand marshal shuffle was the name of the dance last week, as the San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Celebration Committee Inc. announced that comedian Margaret Cho would be a definite celebrity grand marshal, and Glide Memorial United Methodist Church leaders the Reverend Cecil Williams and his wife, Janice Mirikitani, would no longer participate as community honorees.

Cho stepped up to the plate to fill the gap left by Ellen DeGeneres, who still has not responded as to whether she will participate in an event that includes the word, "Lesbian."

Cho, who is most recently known for her hit show, *I'm the One That I Want*, will attend the pre-parade press party, ride on a float in front of the bisexual group Anything That Moves, and speak at both the main stage and the festival's first-ever Asian and Pacific Islander Stage. Cho scored the second highest amount of overall public votes for grand marshal, but the committee's decision to break the individual nominees into "community" and "celebrity" categories originally left her out of the lineup.

It was exactly this decision that left some members of the LGBT community confused as to why some people with fewer votes emerged as grand marshals.

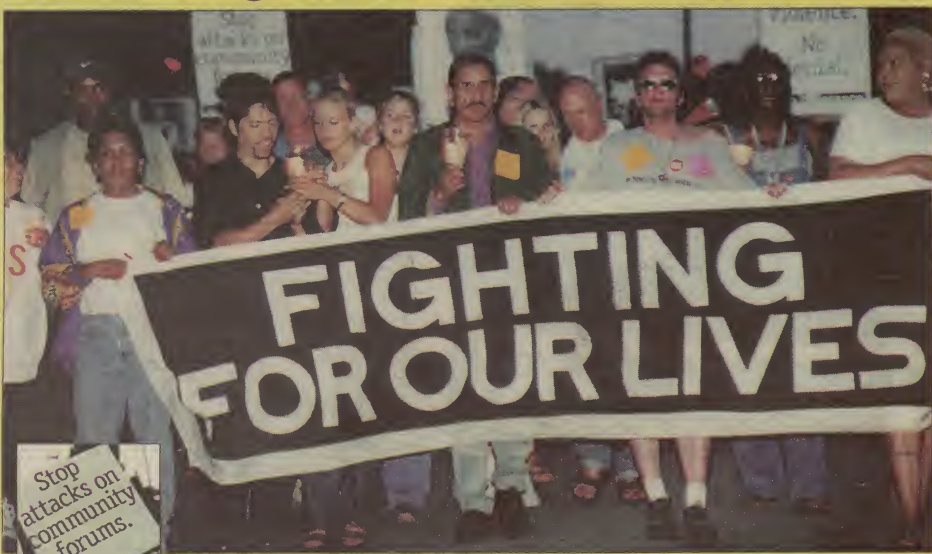
"We decided to choose one person from the celebrity category, one organization, and two nominees from the community," according to Pride President Calvin Gipson. "We didn't do it that way last year, but there really isn't

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Marching because AIDS isn't over



A crowd estimated at about 1,000 turned out in the Castro last Sunday, May 21 for the 17th annual International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization. Participants led by figure skater Rudy Galindo, who earlier this year learned that he is HIV-positive, marched to City Hall. Many of the marchers also carried signs (inset) that called for an end to violence by members of ACT UP/San Francisco, a small AIDS dissident group.

Eileen Hansen challenges Leno for District 8 supe seat

by Katie Szymanski

She is recognized throughout the city as someone who has launched nonprofits, advised public agencies, and incorporated civil rights into all of her projects. Statewide, her name is synonymous with both local and national HIV advocacy. But come November, Eileen Hansen hopes to be known for an additional achievement, being elected San Francisco supervisor of District 8.

Hansen announced her candidacy for the Castro-Noe Valley area seat on Monday, May 22, officially making the district race anything but boring as she becomes one of the top challengers to incumbent Supervisor Mark Leno.

"This really is going to be a grassroots campaign," Hansen promised about 20 supporters who gathered at City Hall to watch her file the election papers.

Hansen, the current public policy director

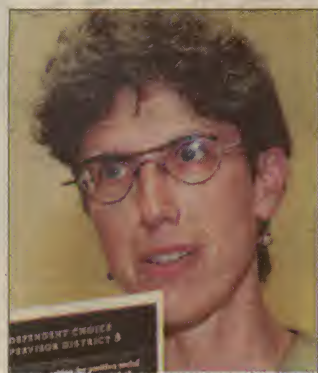
for AIDS Legal Referral Panel, said that if she wins, she will commit to being a full-time supervisor in order to "change the direction of this city."

In last year's mayoral runoff, Hansen was a strong supporter of Tom Ammiano. Although Ammiano, president of the Board of Supervisors, lost to Mayor Willie Brown, he nevertheless energized many progressives and tenants. Hansen hopes to capitalize on that energy.

And Hansen immediately received key support. Less than 24 hours after formally launching her candidacy, former Board of Supervisors President Angela Alioto issued a statement endorsing Hansen. "Eileen has a clear understanding and knowledge of the issues facing the city," Alioto stated.

While Hansen has taken similar positions as Leno on issues such as a proposed queer youth shelter in the Castro, she spent this week describing the distinctions between

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Eileen Hansen announced she is running for supervisor in District 8, which includes the Castro and Noe Valley.

Head south for San Jose Pride

by Katie Szymanski

It's just a few weekends away and a quick trip to one of the most festive celebrations in the South Bay, so before dismissing the hassle of a short commute, consider the offerings at this year's San Jose Gay Pride, now in its 25th year.

Performers Cyndi Lauper and Jody Wat-

ley are just two of the attractions at the Pride celebration that takes place Sunday, June 11 at Discovery Meadow in Guadalupe River Park. But the event, which spans the entire weekend, features diverse entertainment, a parade, and specific areas geared toward family, multicultural, and leather events.

The party begins on Saturday, June 10, with free access to the festival at Discovery Meadow. Visitors can browse among the ven-

dor and nonprofit booths, and enjoy a full day of main stage performances by the Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus, Pro Latin Danca, Mr. and Mrs. Gay South Bay, the Fox-tail Drag Show, Diamond John's Revue, Karen Soo Hoo, and Jessica Star. Also on Saturday will be open volleyball games on two courts, sponsored by Rainbow Recreation. New to the festival this year is "Leather Alley,"

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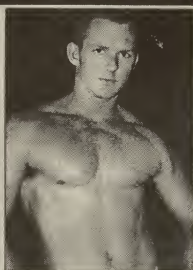
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Cooling off at COLAGE picnic



Jane Philomeni-Cleland

Two kids and a dog took advantage of some water and cooled off last Saturday, May 20 at Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere's spring softball bash and picnic at Berkeley's Tilden Park. Children and adults enjoyed an afternoon of outdoor games and food. COLAGE provides programs for children of LGBT parents.

Feinstein campaign benefit June 1

by Terry Beswick

In this country's form of government, representing the largest state in the nation in the U.S. Senate involves more than representation, challenging as that job may be in and of itself.

Officeholders also must get re-elected if, as is often the case, they have not yet realized their stated agenda and fulfilled all campaign promises, politics being what it is. This, of course, means raising money. Lots of money.

And if there's talk, as in this election year, of wresting control of the Senate away from the opposing political party, popular senators from populous states - like California - often raise a lot more cash to help elect and re-elect senatorial candidates of their party from other states.

Democratic California Senator Dianne Feinstein, San Francisco's former mayor first elected to national office in 1992 along with fellow California Senator Barbara Boxer - also from the Bay Area - is up for re-election this November. It is her third race for the office and her second for a full six-year term.

Thursday evening, June 1, Broadway legend Rita Moreno

will be the special guest at a San Francisco benefit for California Victory 2000, a joint account shared by Feinstein's re-election campaign and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, which helps to elect Democrats facing tough races in other states.

Moreno reportedly will not be performing at Thursday's event from 6-8 p.m. at the Saint Francis Wood home of Michael Acabado and Michael Dombrowski, though there will be entertainment, along with cocktails and a light buffet. Feinstein, currently ahead in early polls, is expected to attend, along with other elected officials and Democratic Party activists.

According to Feinstein campaign manager Kam Kuwata, who also ran the senator's two previous statewide runs, the campaign currently has a few million dollars more in its coffers than the Republican contender, South Bay Congressman Tom Campbell, who at last report had \$600,000 in the bank, but nothing is being taken for granted.

"We will raise what we need to raise," Kuwata said, noting that in 1992, Feinstein raised and spent \$9 million to match then-Governor Pete Wilson appointee John Seymour's campaign spending,



Senator Dianne Feinstein

and in 1994, it cost the senator about \$15 million to stave off a bid from businessman Michael Huffington, who spent twice that out his own wallet.

Organizers are asking for a \$250 contribution for the June 1 event, and ask that checks be made payable to California Victory 2000.

All proceeds benefit Feinstein's re-election bid until individuals contribute over \$1000 to her campaign; amounts in excess of that will go the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. ▼

For more information, or to make reservations, call Jeannie Robeson at (415) 705-8711.

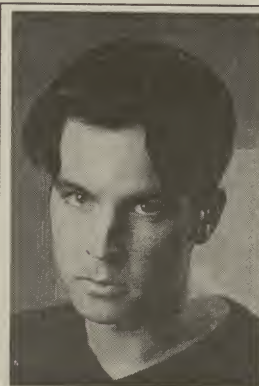
GLBT history now on display at SF library

by Katie Szymanski

Forgot your roots - or too young to remember them? "Making a Case for Community History," an exhibition of photographs, images, and literature, can be viewed at the San Francisco Public Library through June 23.

Presented by the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Historical Society of Northern California, the exhibit aims to communicate the diversity and richness of the history of the GLBT community, and features two-spirit Native Americans, bisexuals, elders, sex workers, and groups like the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in its display.

"Community History" is at the Skylight Gallery in the library's main branch at the Civic Center, and also will be shown on Sunday, June 25 at the Pride celebration in Civic Center Plaza. But in the meantime, an opening reception is planned for Thursday, June 1. The free reception is from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Skylight Gallery, located on the library's sixth floor. ▼



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COMMUNITY NEWS

SFAF's Christen breaks though \$200K mark

by Terry Beswick

After years of steady increases well above Bay Area's rising cost of living, San Francisco AIDS Foundation Executive Director Patricia L. Christen's annual salary as leader of the city's largest AIDS service organization rose by only about 2.3 percent in fiscal year 1998-99, according to the ASO's federal Internal Revenue Service reports released last week.

Christen's raise, set by SFAF's board of directors, was a relatively modest \$4,227, from \$183,892 to \$188,119. Adding in an annual \$13,201 benefit package given to all of SFAF's top earners last year, her total compensation package broke the \$200,000 mark for the first time, for a grand total of \$201,320.

Now in her 10th year as executive director at SFAF — one of the nation's leading ASOs with prevention, housing, counseling, treatment education, and advocacy programs — Christen got an 11.8 percent raise in 1997-98, keeping pace with a series of similar increases dating back to fiscal year 1990-91, when she took the top management position for \$64,000.

"Pat's salary represents the board's support for her leadership," board chair Lonnie Payne told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

In recent years, Christen, 40, has garnered escalating controversy over the increases among some local critics. Responding to this criticism, Payne noted that the director's compensation "is well



SFAF's Pat Christen

within the market range for large nonprofits."

SFAF's total income in 1998-99 was \$18,099,652, an increase of about half a million dollars from fiscal year 1997-98.

"We definitely met our fundraising goals," said Payne. The organization's budget has more than tripled in the last decade.

Assets on hand at the end of the year show that the nonprofit has maintained a healthy reserve, having grown to over \$7 million.

Total expenditures on client services and other programs during the last fiscal year were reported to the IRS at \$12,843,199, an increase of less than \$400,000 from the previous year.

Before taking over as board president in January, Payne participated in the board committee that

conducted Christen's annual performance review. He said that while the executive director saw a smaller percentage increase compared to previous years, this does not suggest that the board was unhappy with Christen's performance.

"I really feel that she's one of the best executive directors out there," Payne said, adding that the rest of the board was "unanimous" in sharing this opinion.

Citing SFAF board policy, Payne would not disclose Christen's current annual salary for the year 2000. Nor would Payne discuss whether the executive director's reported salary included bonuses.

He also refused to explain the board's relative drop in increased remuneration for Christen last year.

However, in addition to the executive director, the IRS requires that nonprofit organizations report the five next highest paid employees on their annual 990 forms. Of the top five, Lance Henderson, SFAF's deputy director for finance and administration, took home the largest salary, as he did in fiscal year 1997-98.

And in fiscal 1998-99, Henderson saw the biggest increase of the other top earners, winning a \$15,869 hike in compensation over the previous year, from \$125,439 to \$141,308 — a jump of 12.65 percent. Henderson's increase, notably, occurred during the same period as Christen got an increase of 2.3 percent. Other reported top earners, who received compensation ranging from

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Noche de Salsa dance Saturday

by Terry Beswick

Whether you love to move to a sexy salsa beat — or your cultural competence in the salsa dancing department is somewhat lacking — the annual Noche de Salsa dance party this Saturday, May 27 is for you.

Featuring live salsa music from the popular band Azabache plus dancing with deejay Clay, Noche de Salsa 2000 will hit the beat at Futura, at 174 King at Third Street, across from Pacific Bell Park in San Francisco. The Latin rhythms start at 7 p.m. with a reception and salsa dance lessons from Jaime Martinez, and the live music begins at 8 p.m.

And whether you've learned to salsa or not in time for a 9:15 drawing, you could be the lucky dancer to win a round-trip ticket from American Airlines good for anywhere in the U.S., Mexico, the Caribbean, or Canada; or a pair of boxing shorts signed by Oscar de la Hoya; or a stay at San Francisco's Joie de Vivre Hotel.

Proceeds from the event will help Latinos with HIV/AIDS

through Shanti's El Programa Latino and Mano a Mano HIV Services at Instituto Familiar de la Raza; the two local programs work in collaboration to offer bilingual mental health and support services to their clients.

The annual benefit "is not just about raising money; it's about raising support and awareness in the Latino community," according to organizers. "As the number of Latinos living with HIV and AIDS

in San Francisco increases, so does the need for support and access to treatment and services."

The official event ends at 10 p.m., but the \$20 admission price includes dancing at Futura until 3 a.m. ▼

For more information, call (415) 674-4764. Order tickets online at www.tixtogo.com/go/shanti.

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Just how many oral sex contacts did these men have over the years before becoming infected? The usual self-reported frequency of oral sex contact in such studies is recognized as laughably understated and totally misleading by those who are aware that, as the world's undisputed leader in this activity, the U.S. offers countless situations where a man can have each day a dozen oral insertive and/or oral receptive encounters. In these circumstances, it would be hard to remember seeing a condom used or anything spat out.

Since it has been evident for years that the extreme rarity of any reports of HIV sero-conversion due to male-male insertive oral sex reflects an infection risk rate so low as to be almost incalculable and of no practicality, we can see nothing "definitive" about this study. Any projection of a hypothetical HIV transmission risk rate due to male-male receptive oral sex must assess the many thousands of men who have had millions of unprotected receptive oral sex contacts over the years and have not been infected.

SOME CONCERNED OBSERVERS

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Correction

In the May 18 issue, the *Bay Area Reporter* erroneously identified the chair of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Public Health and Environment Committee [Union, supes target nonprofit hospitals for lack of charity]. The chair of the committee is Supervisor Sue Bierman. We regret the error.

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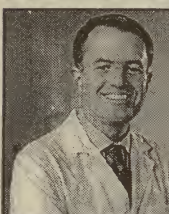
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TGs rally against police abuse



When will San Francisco police get it? Transgender activists from TransAction and other groups held their second demonstration in recent months outside the Hall of Justice Wednesday, May 17 to protest continuing abuse by the SFPD. Speakers, including Community United Against Violence's Shawna Virago, called for an end to verbal abuse by police and "Walking While Transgender," or police pulling over transients without cause.

HIV+ men, women: New workshops could change your LIFE

by Terry Beswick

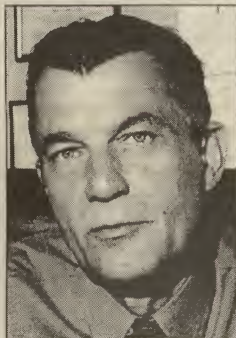
It's a no-brainer. It doesn't matter whether you're religious about taking your full regimen of prescription treatments for your human immunodeficiency virus or not.

If you've got a disease that attacks your body's immune system – but have no plan for reinforcing your body's immune system defenses – you're simply not doing all you can to prevent or treat acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

According to a growing body of evidence from major medical centers in the U.S. and abroad, people with HIV/AIDS have it within their power to improve their chances of maintaining or regaining their health – and possibly improve long-term survival – by making a number of quantifiable changes to daily "life issues," also known as "cofactors."

To paraphrase a wildly successful political campaign of 1992, "It's the immune system, stupid." Beginning in early June, Shanti will begin two concurrent six-month programs – one for men and one for women living with HIV or HIV/AIDS – to address 21 life issues shown to influence immunity and HIV disease progression.

The program, dubbed LIFE – an acronym for Learning Immune Function Enhancement – is free.



Shanti's Dr. Jeffrey Leiphart

The men's and women's programs are open to up to 40 participants each – but they're filling up fast, with only 15 slots left open for the men's group at press time.

Developments in science take years – even decades – to be published and confirmed, and even longer to filter down from the specialists to your average small town doc. Today, however, trained health providers are squirming less and less at the mention of such phrases as "psychosocial cofactors" – thinking of them less as old wives tales and more as preventive medicine based on plain old common sense. Physical influences on bodily and mental functioning like

daily water intake, toxins, trusted support systems, and sleep patterns make a difference.

Got milk?

According to Jeffrey Leiphart, Ph.D., director of client services of Shanti, who developed the LIFE program, the workshop facilitators and written materials will provide: basic information about how the 21 inter-related life issues impact immunity; self-assessment of performance on changing these factors, if appropriate; and development of a personalized "improvement plan" – measurable steps geared to maximize immune system functioning and promote long-term health.

But weekly meetings for six months with a group of 30 or 40 people in two and a half hour sessions can't be all work and no play.

The program also is designed to "promote buddy and friend relationships among participants, empower the HIV-positive person to develop control of their health planning, develop overall improved quality of life – and have fun while doing it," said Leiphart.

LIFE for HIV-positive men begins Tuesday evening June 6 at Shanti's Polk Street office and meets weekly from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

LIFE for HIV-positive women, which includes free child-care and is facilitated by an all-woman

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Mbeki speaks in SF



S. Africa President Thabo Mbeki

by Terry Beswick

South African President Thabo Mbeki – who has successfully drawn unprecedented attention to his country's burgeoning AIDS crisis in recent weeks with his controversial stances on everything from the cause of the disease to how to treat it – came to San Francisco's Fairmont Hotel Wednesday May 24 to give an address at the invitation of the Commonwealth Club and the World Affairs Council of North-

ern California.

Following on the heels of his first state visit to the U.S., having met with President Clinton and other officials, Mbeki's one-hour talk focused almost entirely on the economic challenges facing his country in the wake of apartheid.

He called on Americans to "continue the support you gave us to end apartheid ... to attack a new struggle to end poverty, to end underdevelopment."

But Mbeki has been busy backpeddling in recent days from earlier statements calling into question whether HIV was the cause of AIDS, stacking half of a new presidential advisory council on AIDS with AIDS dissidents, sending a letter by diplomatic pouch to world leaders comparing critics of the

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DADT=gay, no pay?

by Katie Szymanski

Nobody asked, he told, and now he's discharged. Same old story.

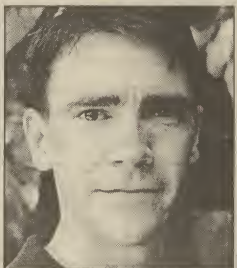
But does the Air Force have the right to reclaim its scholarship funds from a man who came out as gay but was still willing to serve?

San Francisco resident Dr. John Hensala, a psychiatrist, says no. Hensala, who received an honorable discharge in 1997, filed a lawsuit against the Air Force in federal court last week seeking an order that stops the military branch from trying to collect over \$71,000 in scholarship money that funded his medical school.

From the Air Force standpoint, "telling" in an age of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was akin to asking for a discharge, which is grounds for recouping scholarship money.

But to Hensala, coming out was simply "very important, from a psychological standpoint."

"As a representative of the



Dr. John Hensala

mental health field, I didn't feel I could be in the closet," Hensala told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Hensala made it clear to the Air Force that he wanted to continue to serve, which should preclude the military from trying to recoup his scholarship, according to his attorney Stephen Collier.

"The regulation is, if you're discharged voluntarily, meaning

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MELINA J. BURNS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

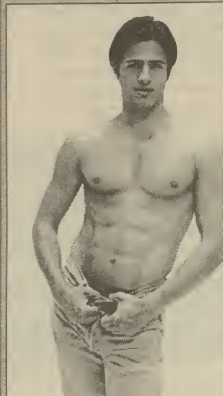
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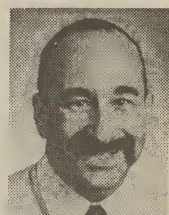
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OPEN FORUM

Another year, another raise

So the spineless San Francisco AIDS Foundation Board of Directors has awarded yet another raise to longtime Executive Director Pat Christen, whose annual salary and benefits now top \$200,000. We weren't surprised when we reviewed the latest federal 990 tax returns, which cover the period from July 1, 1998 to June 30, 1999. That the returns are nearly a year old and the fact that the SFAF board remains one of the most silent around town when it comes to discussing important matters like, say, the executive director's salary, once again demonstrates how out of touch the board is with regard to people living with HIV/AIDS.

People living with HIV/AIDS who make more than \$200,000 a year likely aren't the clients being served by SFAF; their clients make considerably less than that and need all the programs and services the city's largest AIDS service organization can provide. Unfortunately, that isn't happening. The foundation has neither replaced its Latino program that was unceremoniously scrapped a couple of years ago, nor has it effectively lobbied for more affordable housing for PWAs. In fact, we could argue that the money going to Christen's bloated salary would be better spent paying high-priced lobbyists who could actually get something done when it comes to affordable housing development in San Francisco, and housing for PWAs in particular. But we won't belabor that thought; who knows, SFAF might actually listen to us and start spending money on local lobbyists, thus siphoning even more money away from programs and services than the \$5 million it already spends on employee salaries, not to mention another \$800,000 or so in employee benefits. And we wouldn't want to see that happen.

All the while, SFAF's board has done nothing to curb the salary increases. If Christen hadn't been on maternity leave for part of the time covered by the 990s, her raise probably would have been more than the unusually small 2.3 percent increase that she received. Her actual current salary remains a mystery, but it's safe to say that it has increased.

Lonnie Payne, who took over as board chair in January, has followed the same tired path as his predecessor, Paul Wisotzky, when it comes to Christen's salary hikes and at-

tempts to explain them to us. "Pat's great, she deserves it" is basically what the board chair's response has been all these years; or, "It's in line with the latest study."

How many more years does the community have to hear these worn out excuses? And when will the community start demanding accountability?

Last July we editorialized about changes we'd like to see over at SFAF—mostly involving programs and housing, and to date, not surprisingly, none of them have occurred. Meanwhile, many PWAs must continue to live in roach-infested residential hotels, or literally wait for years on the SFAF-managed AIDS housing list, only to find there are no landlords that will take the subsidy once they finally get one.

SFAF's reserve fund is an obscene \$7 million, according to the 990s. While we certainly understand the need to keep a healthy amount of funds in savings for a "rainy day," we can't help but wonder why the foundation hasn't seen fit to spend a modest

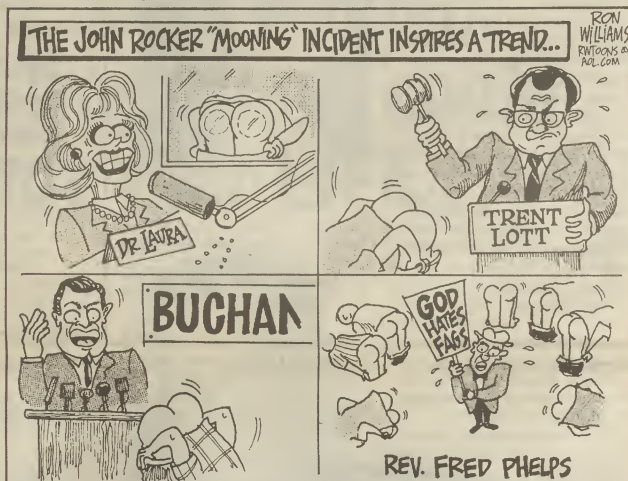
\$200,000 to bring back the Latino program that would help hundreds of clients. Reports of the increasing incidence of HIV/AIDS among communities of color have been in the news over the past year, yet SFAF does not find it necessary to restore these services. That's a shame.

We would like to write about the good that SFAF's board has done over the years, but since they're so tight-lipped, getting even positive information out of them is impossible. The board's answer to serving the community is to hold two pathetic "open" meetings this year—the second meeting is next month and is only open to the public for a portion of the session—where cameras and recording devices

are prohibited, and you have to call to get your name on a damn list to even attend. To address the board, SFAF has to know in advance what you're speaking about. That's serving the community? What a joke.

Enjoy your raise Pat. Don't spend it all in one place. ▼

Editorial



Nov. 2000: Once in a generation

by Virginia M. Apuzzo

The year 2000 is the type of election that comes along once in a generation—an election which, for better or worse, dramatically changes our political landscape. It is not unlike John F. Kennedy's "passing the torch to a new generation" in 1960 or Ronald Reagan's pledge to "make America strong again" in 1980.

This year's election may well be a generational election because of everything it portends: Control of Congress, control of the White House and the Supreme Court appointments that will follow, and control of state legislatures throughout the country that will redraw state and congressional boundaries for the next decade. It is abundantly clear, then, that the fallout from this election will remain with us for a generation to come.

So what are we in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community in a position to do about it?

Political pundits argue that control of the White House and Congress could depend on what happens in five key, urban, industrialized states: Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Each of these states has two things in common: the two parties are in close competition, and the gay, lesbian, and bisexual electorate (unfortunately, exit polls still don't measure transgender voters) is potentially huge.

Today's GLBT movement has something that it lacked in previous elections in 1980, 1984, and 1988. We have political infrastructure on the ground. We now have GLBT groups in every state in the country and in hundreds of towns and cities as well.

This local political infrastructure can serve as an organizing force to register GLB voters and propel them to the polls. An analysis of our potential voting strength demonstrates the impact we could have on close races up and down the ballot.

We know roughly how many GLB voters live in large cities, mid-sized cities, suburbs, and rural areas. We also can measure the differences in voter turnout between urban and non-urban voters. Therefore, we can make certain assumptions about the potential size of the GLB voting bloc in the five key states of Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. We know, for instance, that GLB voters tend to make up about 9 percent of the electorate in large cities (populations of 500,000 or more), 7 percent of the electorate in mid-sized cities (population 50,000 to 500,000), 3.7 percent in suburbs, and 2.3 percent in rural areas.

Looking at the unique demographic patterns of each state as well as average turnout rates for the past two federal elections, we conservatively estimate that at least 900,000 GLB voters will go to the polls in the five swing states.

Consider the impact of a strong GLBT voter turnout:

- In Illinois, based on recent turnout patterns, we project that the likely GLB turnout in the November elections will be about 230,000. In the closely contested 1976 presidential election, only 92,974 voters separated the two major party presidential candidates. In the dramatic 1960 election, only 8,858 votes separated the two candidates. It

is clear, then, that the GLB voting bloc will be larger than the margin of victory in the 1960 and 1976 elections (and even larger than 1988, when Vice President George Bush defeated Michael Dukakis by 94,999 votes).

- In Michigan, we project the likely GLB vote will be about 173,000. That is larger than the margin of victory in 1960 (66,841 votes) and approaches the margin of victory in 1976 (197,000 votes).

- In New Jersey, we project a GLB turnout of about 114,000. That is larger than the margin of victory in the 1960, 1968, 1976, and 1992 presidential elections.

- In Ohio, we project a GLB turnout of 190,000; that is more than double the margin of victories in the 1968, 1976, and 1992 presidential elections.

- In Pennsylvania, we project a GLB turnout of 207,000 voters, larger than the margins of victories in 1960, 1968, 1976, and 1988.

These figures confirm what we in the GLBT community already know: we have formidable power and a real potential to create change this November. ▼

Virginia Apuzzo served as the assistant to the president for administration and management from 1997 to 1999. She was the highest-ranking gay or lesbian official in the White House. Today, Apuzzo fills the Virginia Apuzzo Chair for Leadership in Public Policy at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Sad about star's death

I was not surprised or shocked – but greatly saddened – when I read the obituary regarding the overdose death of Jeff Vickers/Jon Vincent [*"Porn star Jon Vincent dies of heroin OD," May 11*].

I first met him as a client. We became friends and I enjoyed our conversations and visits over a five-year period. I know a lot of people will read the obit and think, "Porn star, junkie, predictable, so what?" And, of course, they're right. It happens all too often. Jeff Vickers, however, was *not* Jon Vincent. Jeff was considerate, funny, warm, and loyal to his friends. I knew about his heroin habit and how hard he tried to overcome it. We talked about it many times but it's not my business to judge. With Jeff you either accepted him, problems and all, or went on your way and missed knowing an interesting person. I don't think he was ever truly happy, but when he laughed he meant it. I guess his demons were too much to conquer. He once told me that he knew he would never grow old. I knew it too and will always wonder if he accidentally overdosed or just decided he was tired of fighting. I do know that I'll miss him.

Bob Streiff
San Francisco

Dandelions of denialism

Odd, isn't it? The same characters who went to so much effort disrupting Under One Roof's Castro Street relocation benefit last May, shouting through their bullhorns, "Where does the money go?" should now presume that a cursory visual inspection of a single-page computer printout – no copies permitted, thank you – for their own \$1.5 million enterprise is anything approaching adequate when serious questions of financial accountability are leveled against them.

Odder still, that when confronted with direct questions by the B.A.R.'s Terry Beswick regarding their purchase of the building which houses ACT UP/San Francisco's pot club, these self-appointed guardians of our community choose to deny it. Michael Bellefontaine stating, "I have no idea what you're talking about." [*ACT UP/SF forms secret trust, buys pot club building," May 4*]. The "no comments" by other trustees of this secret arrangement fly in the face of their professed open-book policy.

It's not surprising that these dandelions of denialism, weeds profiting in a great lawn of green, are now so accustomed to denying the truth. I suppose the confusion, or lies, do come fast and furious – after all, who has time for the truth when there's no time to do anything but count all that money?

Michael Lauro, Survive AIDS
San Francisco

It boils down to disclaimer

Regarding Martin Delaney's metaphor; me thinks the lady doth protest too loudly [*"South Africa gives forum to HIV dissidents," May 11*]. A more accurate metaphor would be like the president initiating a debate on the safety of the shuttle with at least one side with no investment in the program.

President Mbeki has taken a very courageous stand for the welfare of his people in spite of enormous international pressure. He is finally bringing a debate to the table that has been needed for years. If those with a vested interest in the viral theory have nothing to fear, then the dissidents can only make fools of themselves right?

It all comes down to the disclaimer on the ELISA test: "There is no recognized standard for establishing the presence or absence of HIV-1 in human blood."

Markas O'Donnell
Oakland, California

Someone to fill in for Dr. Laura?

Oh how wonderful it is to read Jim Provenzano championing the stereotype of the circuit boy, a member of a large subculture within our very own community! [*"Go ask Alice," Sports Complex, May 11*].

Wait a minute, you mean Jim wasn't presenting this "Todd" in a good light? You mean he was actually vilifying Todd, this drug sniffing, narcissistic, self-absorbed, hypocritical, obtuse, politically unaware, and unsafe nymphomaniacal gay man?

You don't think Jim is implying that Todd is "wrong" or "bad," or that this composite gay is the very antithesis of everything that's good and wholesome and right within our community? Why, one might even think Jim ... hates this homosexual.

Move over Dr. Laura, I think we found someone to fill in on your nights off.

Chase O'Keefe
San Francisco

Trans activist has done a lot

I'm puzzled by Sara Susanna Moore's admonition to Ashley Sinclair to "do something, do anything, but don't just criticize direct action organizers and then

give nothing back to the lesbians women's community but lame apologies for starvation diet clinics." [*"Don't reject direct action," Mailstrom, May 11*].

Ms. Sinclair is well-known in Oregon as a dedicated, effective trans activist. Although only in her 20s, three years ago, for example, she organized a July 14 protest in front of the Walla Walla (Washington) County Superior Courthouse in support of transsexual prisoner Crystal Schwenk (whose sexual assault by a corrections officer was recently ruled to be a violation of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals).

Then there is the fact that two years ago – on April 28, 1998 – Ms. Sinclair obtained from Oregon's Civil Rights Division the first determination (based upon state law) of discrimination in public accommodations due to transsexuality. The following month Ms. Sinclair played a key role in persuading the Benton County (Oregon) Commissioners to specifically prohibit (ordinance No. 98-0139) discrimination on the basis of gender identity including "the status of being transsexual or transgender."

Ms. Sinclair's activism has been reported in Portland's *Just Out* and the *Corvallis Gazette Times*, among other publications. Her accomplishments as a young transsexual activist rank among the best in the country and her analysis of Avengers' actions deserve thoughtful consideration if for no other reason – and she certainly deserves better than to be dismissed with the false accusation of giving nothing back to the community.

Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan
Portland, Oregon

SF Lesbian Avengers respond

We would like to respond to Ashley Sinclair's April 20 letter in which she criticizes the Lesbian Avengers as a whole and various Avenger chapters on several different issues. First, let it point out that we, the San Francisco Avengers, are but one of many chapters worldwide and we generally work on a local, grassroots level on a shoestring budget, and make decisions independently of other chapters.

Regarding our protest outside SF's Jenny Craig Weight Loss Center, we chose that particular target for a couple of reasons. 1) The Jenny Craig Center is a highly visible example of the diet industry's willingness to promote and exploit fat-phobia, our culture's seldom acknowledged yet pervasive fear, hatred, and abuse of fat people. 2) In a recent study, a woman who had weighed in at her "ideal" weight for her height and age at the doctor's office went to a Jenny Craig Center, where the staff altered the scales to make her appear to be seven pounds "overweight." Deceitful tactics like these, preying on women's fears of being labeled fat, demand direct action and media attention.

Our action in front of Jenny Craig involved educational flyers about the inherent worthiness and sexiness of fat women and the validity of all women's bodies, not just those of skinny women. Sinclair's comparison of our tactics to those of anti-choice fanatics harassing abortion clinics is ridiculous and insulting.

With regard to Camp Trans, outside the Michigan Women's Music Festival: Thus far, the SF Avengers have not participated, although we're not opposed to it. We support the inclusion of male-to-female transsexual women at MWMF and other women's spaces. Based on reports we've heard from Chicago Avengers and numerous MWMF attendees, there has been no "harassment" on the part of Camp Trans activists, only educational workshops and a peaceful, legal protest of the long-term exclusion, harassment, and threats by MWMF organizers and a handful of their supporters. Each year since Camp Trans began in 1994 – in response to the expulsion of MTF Nancy Jean Burkholder from the festival – according to reports, more and more volunteers and attendees have visited Camp Trans and come out in support of MTF inclusion. Since the mid-1970s, the safety and dignity of MTFs who are part of queer women's communities have been under attack by a small but vocal group of lesbian separatists and second-wave feminists. The SF Lesbian Avengers strongly support efforts by our sister chapters and other activists to protect MTF attendees from threats of violence and to voice their opposition to policies of transphobic exclusion.

In a time of increasing hate and rising levels of violence from straight society, we find it troubling that voices from within the LGBT community are so quick to condemn those of us who take action in solidarity with the struggles of the most marginalized among us. As the saying goes, "If they come for me in the morning, they will come for you that night."

Let's all stand together.

Delphine Brady, Crystal Exit, Tracy Lourdes,
Rhani Remedios, Mattie Fricker, Jamie Bostick,
Lisa Calotta, Kathy Allen, S. Troxler,
Andy Meyer, Celeste Pearl
San Francisco Lesbian Avengers

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David Rasnick Ph.D., Biochemist To
Speak At Heal SF Meeting

Dr. David Rasnick, AIDS dissident scientist and President of the Group for the Scientific Reappraisal of the HIV/AIDS Hypothesis has designed protease inhibitors for arthritis, cancer, emphysema, and parasitic diseases for the past 20 years.

Dr. Rasnick has recently been in the news after receiving a phone call from South African President Thabo Mbeki asking him to be on a panel of leading AIDS experts comprised of mainstream and dissident scientists to discuss alternative views of AIDS causation and treatment. Dr. Rasnick will reveal what President Mbeki has in store for the way in which diseases renamed AIDS will be dealt with in Africa without standard AIDS medications. Improving living situations with clean water and improved nutrition are what Dr. Rasnick has recommended as ways in which to improve the health of South Africa.

Dr. Rasnick will take questions from the audience and open the floor to discussion.

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Columnist has utopian visions

The B.A.R.'s May 4 issue brings us another of Dale Carpenter's utopian visions wherein queers would realize how "ordinary" they are. Furthermore, any queer who doesn't share his vision is a cowardly, haunted leftist.

He conflates diverse opinions along with a bit of his own analysis to create a fear-filled straw man as emblematic of the queer left and demolishes it with a stunning insight: "If it is ordinary to be gay, there's nothing special about you on that account." Well, yeah, there's no arguing with a tautology like that. To give some notion of what he considers to be ordinary queers and the progress they've made for our assimilation, he mauls two movies and a TV sitcom.

Mr. Carpenter seriously misstates the portrayals in the movie, *Priest*, by asserting it "treats us to ordinary people..." and "...strongly suggested that in a better world, that last attribute (being gay) would be among the least important facts about (the protagonist)."

Had the film's homosexual and heterosexual priests been depicted as "ordinary people" the Roman Catholic hierarchy, a large segment of the laity, even some Protestant fundies would not have gone ballistic on its release. The heterosexual priest is presented as a leftist-leaning revolutionary espousing unorthodox, humanistic tenets departing from his religion's ordinary doctrine, offensive to his superior and eventually altering the young priest's more ordinary concept of priestly duties. Rather than heralding Mr. Carpenter's better world, the film not only "strongly suggests," but at one point explicitly states the young priest's homosexuality is a most important fact in enlarging his compassion for humankind.

Surely a bitter lesson of *Philadelphia* is found in the spectacle of a gay man who has prospered by appearing to be ordinary in his public life, conforming to the values and deportment of the white, heterosexual male, corporate establishment only to learn how little meaning such conformity has when his sexuality becomes public knowledge. Sure, in "a better world" such a movie would not be possible, but in the world we are given in life and the film the ordinariness of the white, male heterosexual elite includes hypocrisy, bigotry, dishonesty, and no amount of conformity to whatever standards Mr. Carpenter judges appropriately ordinary is going to make being queer "ordinary."

There is nothing ordinary or routine about any of the characters in *Will & Grace*. Will dresses conservatively while lawyering. Wow! But he does display certain gay mannerisms, occasionally even stereotypical ones when humor requires it. Kissing another man on national television as Will does in one episode is hardly ordinary behavior and his fast-take gay repartee is hardly standard middle America speech.

As for Jack's "campy flair." Get outta here! Jack is much larger than that weak-kneed characterization; he is a stereotypically fatuous, flamboyant, unapologetic queen. But he is evidently acceptable because Mr. Carpenter finds him "hilarious" and not unduly "self-absorbed," presumably qualities attesting his ordinariness.

It is troubling that Mr. Carpenter prejudices his discussion of those gay commentators he disagrees with by an unsubstantiated charge they are motivated by fear, especially when he displays an inordinate sensitivity to, if not fear of, the opinions of Lou Sheldon and Pat Robertson. I certainly do not begrudge Mr. Carpenter or anyone's aspirations to be ordinary, but I insist as well, that no gay person need worry about what the likes of Sheldon and Robertson think of queers and their behavior.

According to Mr. Carpenter, if there is nothing special about being gay, "You're only an individual who must make your own way in the world, unable to depend on the safety of belonging to an elect tribe." Well, there is no more dependable safety in the world than belonging to that tribe you yearn to be part of, the ordinary.

Stan Farwig
Concord, California

Grinding political axes

According to columnist Wayne Friday and letter-writer Armand Boulay, Supervisor Tom Ammiano has no right to criticize District Attorney Terence Hallinan for his inability to secure a harsher sentence for Edgard Mora, the killer of Brian Wilmes. Ammiano has no standing to criticize, they claim, since he endorsed Hallinan's re-election. The logic of this is equal to saying that anyone who supported Bill Clinton for president has no right to condemn him for imposing "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," for signing the Defense of Marriage Act, or for allowing the closure of medical marijuana clubs by federal agents.

The effect of what Friday and Boulay want is silence by our gay leadership in the face of harm visiting our community. I know neither of them actually want such silence, so what is obvious is that both Friday and Boulay are simply opposed politically to Ammiano and are sniffing around for ways to vilify him. Ample examples regularly appear in Friday's column regarding his disdain for Ammiano's populist politics. Boulay's contempt is clear in his whining about Ammiano's alleged "sabotage" of the recent march on Washington, an accusation for which he provides no

evidence, but seems content in throwing it into the mix for his ulterior purpose.

Boulay further reduces himself to absurdity by claiming Ammiano "danced around" the issue of Hallinan's performance when Ammiano spoke at the recent rally, which Boulay did not even attend. Had he, he would have learned otherwise. He also would have heard Ammiano and other speakers urge greater education of young people toward acceptance of our community. Obviously, an education effort of this type is of great long-term significance to our community's well-being and something concrete we can work toward. Unfortunately, instead of recognizing the importance of this, Ammiano's foes would rather try to gain cheap political advantage by grinding their ideological axes.

Alan Collins
San Francisco

More on residential housing plan

This is in response to the May 11 guest opinion regarding the opening of an adult residential facility at 2500 Market Street run by Ark of the Refuge Inc. (AOR).

First, contrary to what the authors imply, the issues we are confronting are not about sexual orientation or race. They are about adult behavior and about the difference between liberty and license.

Second, San Francisco has always been an expensive city to live in, and that includes the Castro.

Third, while all people are welcome here, perpetuating the myth that individuals without marketable job skills, without education, will have an easy time in San Francisco is cruel and dishonest. Many young adults may be seeking "what we all came seeking," but they need to be prepared for what it costs to live here, just as most of us were and are.

Fourth, it is not just "a small group of merchants and residents" who have been critical of the behavior of many of the homeless in our neighborhood. Most people are appalled by vagrants blocking access to Harvey Milk Plaza from Collingwood Street, by public defecation and urination, by syringes in and around the EVRC and the Triangle Park.

Fifth, in discussing the use of the EVRC as a drop-in shelter administered by AOR, the authors state that it "may not have been perfect." How far from perfect it was is attested by over 260 signatures on a petition demanding that it not be used for such purposes again.

Sixth, as for the impact on the Castro of the Noe Valley shelter run by AOR, Carolyn Plybon of the mayor's homeless outreach program has written to Supervisor Mark Leno's office that some of the people causing trouble at the EVRC during the day were staying at that shelter. The magnet effect of the Noe Valley shelter has been felt at the EVRC because it is the pick-up and drop-off point for individuals staying there. The authors fail to mention that the shelter has not always been full—that often, fewer than the permitted 10 adults have stayed there. This raises two questions: how much of a demand really exists for shelter for this population and how many of them are prepared to take advantage of help and make a commitment to ending their cycle of homelessness. The per person, per night cost of this program far exceeds what is paid to interfaith churches for similar programs. In view of the small numbers, justifying such an expense is difficult.

Seventh, a few people may have been helped by both the EVRC and the current Noe Valley shelter, although the cost to the neighborhood of that help has been intolerably high. Nonetheless, many people in the Castro may be willing to support transitional housing at 2500 Market Street, but only with appropriate safeguards for protecting the neighborhood from further deterioration. These safeguards, collectively referred to as neighborhood partnership, have been discussed with Supervisor Leno and the Department of Public Health, but have met with resistance based on vague claims of illegality. They have, however, been supported by Supervisor Leland Yee. Ironically, the Board of Supervisors recently voted unanimously to end discrimination in San Francisco based on size, despite warnings from the city attorney's office that such action may be illegal. In light of this, I encourage Supervisor Leno to work with Supervisor Yee to find a creative solution to neighborhood partnership. Without it, most neighborhood residents will remain opposed to housing the homeless at 2500 Market Street. The facility may open, but it will not succeed without neighborhood support.

Gustavo Serina
San Francisco

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POLITICS

Battle on for control of next Congress

by Wayne Friday

Although the race for the White House between Democratic Vice President **Al Gore** and Texas Governor **George W. Bush** will surely garner most of the attention this election year, it is very possible that the hardest fought political battle will be the one for the control of the next Congress.

A shift of only six seats from Republicans to Democrats in either the House of Representatives or the U.S. Senate this November would give control of Congress to the Democrats and mean that the shift of power and the control of those all-important congressional committees would end up in the hands of men and women with very different political agendas than those now controlled by the Republicans. Most political professionals in both parties

feel that the House of Representatives is the body most likely to turn Democratic after this fall's elections, since a gain of only six seats by the Democrats would give them control and there are at least 35 to 40 House seats nationwide that are actually thought to be competitive, and a majority of those are now held by GOP incumbents. Also, a House seat, being much smaller than a statewide U.S. Senate seat, is much easier to win, thereby making it difficult for Democrats to win enough statewide U.S. Senate seats to gain control of the upper house.

Of the roughly 35 House seats that could go either way in November, probably 20 or so are being fiercely contested, and three of those seats are right here in California. In other words, California is a single state where Democrats could actually gain half of the seats they would need to take back control of the entire House of Representatives. Incidentally, there are reportedly 36 House seats — 18 Democrats and 18 Republicans — where the incumbent will run practically unopposed this year, without any major party opposition.

One of those California House seats that many feel will switch from Republican to Democratic in November is in the Peninsula's 15th District where incumbent GOP Representative **Tom Campbell** is giving up his seat to run against **Dianne Feinstein** for the U.S. Senate. This is a seat that, while currently held by a Republican, is actually considered a Democratic district and Assemblyman **Mike Honda**, the Democratic nominee, is said to have at least an even chance of defeating fellow Assemblyman **Jim Cunneen**, the Republican nominee. Some would say Honda is now thought to be a slight favorite in that district. The 15th District was carried by President **Bill Clinton** by nearly 20 points in 1996 (though Republican Campbell managed to pull out a win for the congressional spot) and many feel that the district is now even more Democratic and if, as some expect, the influential *San Jose Mercury News* endorses Honda, that district will

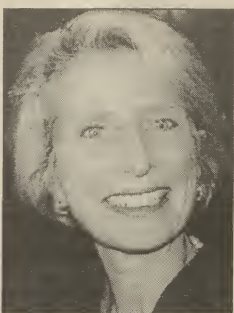
likely become one of those the Democrats will win in November.

Another California House seat, currently held by a Republican, is the 27th District in Southern California, where incumbent Representative **Jim Rogan** has become one of the main targets of the Democrats. Rogan, a staunch conservative, was one of the House managers who lead the impeachment fight against President Clinton, and is being strongly challenged by Democratic state Senator **Adam Schiff**, a popular legislator who actually received more votes in the March primary than did Rogan. This seat is now thought to be leaning Democratic, though

both major parties are expected to spend millions in this race. Democratic and Republican strategists both agree that a strong showing by presidential nominee **Al Gore** in the 27th District will very likely pull Schiff into a win here, making Schiff

and his party the beneficiary of yet another California House seat that was previously held by a Republican.

The third GOP-held House seat in the state that even Republicans concede will likely go the Democrats is that currently held by Representative **Steve Kuykendall** in the 36th Congressional District. This district, also in Southern California, was held by a Democrat, **Jane Harman**, until



Jane Harman

she gave up the seat two years ago to run for governor. Harman lost the governor's race, but is now seeking election to her old House seat and many feel that she is now a slight favorite to retake the district, thereby giving the Democrats their third California House pickup in November.

The national Republican Party, with its taking control of the Congress in 1994 for the first time in 40 years, has been consistently losing many of those seats — particularly in the House — since the 1994 election, and prognosticators of both major parties feel that this is the year that Democrats take back the House. With a switch of only six seats needed, the Democrats and the Republicans have made California the battlefield for at least a large part of who controls the next Congress.

The Gore for President campaign feels it is in good shape in California, and with that goes the likelihood that the Democratic Party will indeed pick up some House seats here — look for all three House seats in the 15th,

27th, and the 36th districts to change hands in November.

Politics and people

East Bay political watchers are saying that Contra Costa County's 7th state Senate District is one that Democrats expect to pick up from the GOP in November as popular Democratic Assemblyman **Tom Torlakson**, a liberal, is given a good chance of unseating conservative GOP state Senator **Richard Rianey**, an anti-gay former sheriff.

More and more newspapers up and down the state are calling for Insurance Commissioner **Chuck Quackenbush's** resignation as the scandals of his office continue to pile up; meanwhile, Quackenbush's wife **Chris**, a politico in her own right (who reportedly benefited financially from the scandals), predictably blamed all her husband's political problems on "politics and a hostile press." Quackenbush is prevented from running for a third term, but even most Republicans I know are saying the guy should do the honorable thing and quit.

Yes, that was Supervisor **Mark Leno**, along with several of his friends, briskly sweeping parts of the Castro last Saturday, taking part in the city's "Big Sweep" program, and to his credit, this was more than a photo op for the likeable supe since he spent hours hard at work long after the cameras left. Leno, incidentally, will be seeking re-election this year from the city's 8th District (Castro, Noe Valley, Twin Peaks) and one of those running against him will be **Shawn O'Hearn**, a longtime openly gay activist who was recently elected to the Democratic County Central Committee; O'Hearn says he will campaign as "A Voice for the Neighborhoods," and there will surely be other candidates before the summer filing deadline.

Gay and lesbian Catholics in New York, some reportedly still grieving at the loss of Cardinal **John O'Connor**, despite his hatred of homosexuality, are quickly finding out that they will have it no better with his successor, **Edward M. Egan**; the newly-appointed archbishop is said to be even more dogmatic on homosexuality, abortion, and contraception than was O'Connor.

Supporters of District 3 supe candidate **Lawrence Wong** are holding a fundraiser/reception for their candidate this Wednesday, May 31 at the Asian Art Gallery & Garden, 295 DeHaro Street (\$100 donation; 285-3414 for info).

And the political pros are saying that we should no longer look for a Californian to end up as the veep choice for either Al Gore or George W. Bush, since California is thought to be safely in Gore's column, and despite what they say, the Bush campaign has reportedly all but given up on the state, and feel that a state veep choice wouldn't help them pick up the state's 54 electoral votes in November.

So who are the two (Gore and Bush) likely to name as their running mates? Very possibly U.S. Senator **Chuck Hagel** of Nebraska, a Vietnam War hero who was originally a McCain supporter, will end up on Bush's ticket, while many Democrats are saying it

next page ►

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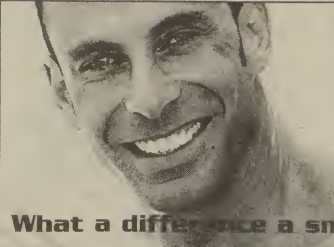
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Honoring gay soldiers who died serving their country

by Nancy Boutilier

I grew up confusing major league baseball's American League with the American Legion. After all, the American Legion was the name of the all-star team that the boys aspired to make after Little League.

Of course, in those days I also confused Memorial Day and Veterans Day — mostly because my town played host to ceremonies on those two days that looked and sounded an awful lot alike to me. Same old men walking down Main Street in the same dated military regalia. Same pause in the parade at the statue in the center of town with the "honor roll." And what sure seemed like the same speech twice each year about serving one's country, protecting freedom, and preserving democracy.

Eventually, I understood the subtle difference between those who sacrificed in general — their jobs, the comforts of home, their personal ties, or their health — and those who "paid the ultimate sacrifice." It was the difference between those who survived the trauma of military service or war and those who had died in the serving.

I remember thinking it odd that all military deaths were elevated to a place of honor, as if the act of wearing the uniform itself made any fatal encounter courageous or noble.

Nevertheless, year in and out, whatever my opinion of U.S. military policy, my patriotism always remained strong enough to allow me to acknowledge the service of veterans and to honor the memory of those who died, without feeling that I was condoning U.S. foreign policy or our latest feat of military aggression.

"Memorial Day is the day we remember and honor those who lost their lives fighting for our nation. The men and women we remember on Memorial Day demonstrated the highest form of faith in the triumph of good over evil," writes Butch Miller, the national commander of the American Legion, the nation's largest wartime veterans organization.

"If we teach young people correctly," Miller writes on the American Legion Web site, "they will willingly serve in the U.S. armed forces, the defense of freedom will continue and democracy will flourish worldwide."

It does not sound to me as if Commander Miller, Butch as he may or may not be, has given much thought to those young people whose freedom is compromised by bigotry. For gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender citizens to serve in the U.S. armed forces, they must willingly remain complicit in their own invisibility, silence, and oppression ... and even then they are not safe.

All in the name of defending freedom. And which freedom is that? The freedom to serve one's country? The freedom to be out? The freedom to be out while serving one's country?

Unfortunately, it seems unfashionable these days to honor lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender servicemembers or veterans. Why is that? Is it because veterans tend to be in the older half of our queer population, not part of the MTV or dot-com crowds? Is it the sense of ambivalence that many queer lefties feel about militarism in general? Is it that "they" had their 15 minutes of fame back around the congressional hearings on gays in the military and the 1993 March on Washington?

I will take time this weekend to remember and honor those who lost their lives while serving in the armed forces.

Among those I will remember is Jim Revering, the 22-year-old sailor who shot himself in the head aboard his submarine in 1981, after being taunted by shipmates as a "sissy."

I will also pay tribute to the memory of Seaman Allen Schindler Jr., who was murdered by fellow shipmate, Terry Helvey, on October 27, 1992. So brutal was the attack that Schindler's mother identified her son by a tattoo. Schindler died while serving

his country. Schindler died for being gay.

And my honor roll will include Private First Class Barry Winchell, who was bludgeoned to death with a baseball bat, allegedly by a fellow soldier or two at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on July 5, 1999. Winchell died while serving his country. It seems that Winchell died because someone believed him to be gay.



Dykeotomy

Though not on any formal military missions at the time of their deaths, these fallen soldiers died while serving their country and trapped behind the enemy lines of the ban on gay men and lesbians in the military.

No doubt, other gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender military personnel have died more conventional wartime deaths. They have died in battle without anyone knowing about or keeping record of their homosexuality. If the Unknown Soldier's name is so unknown, then certainly his sexual orientation is just as much a mystery — as easily gay as not.

Of course, in America, no evidence of homosexuality locks most people into a presumption of heterosexuality. How convenient it is for heterosexual America that when gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender citizens do serve in the U.S. armed forces they have to hide any evidence of their homosexuality. In the end, invisibility, silence ... and false presumptions.

You and I know better. ▼

Our Man Friday

◀ previous page

looks more and more like U.S. Senator **Evan Bayh** of Indiana, a very popular man in that state (which Gore must carry) who also is a Catholic and a political centrist is at the top of Gore's current list of vice presidential choices.

Meanwhile, reversing a trend that has seen several Democratic state legislators turn to the Republican Party in recent years, two GOP members of the South Carolina state Legislature last week switched to the Democratic Party; good news for the Democrats, particularly in lieu of the fact that in just the past two years, Democrats have regained control of the governor's office in South Carolina, Alabama, and Mississippi.

In Sacramento, those who are supposed to know these things are talking about the growing political rift between Governor **Gray Davis** and state Senate President pro tem **John Burton**; even some Democratic members of the Legislature are quietly griping that "Burton thinks he's more powerful than the governor" and some are reportedly getting a bit tired of Burton's "self-importance."

Finally, a "well done" to those who organized Sunday night's annual AIDS Candlelight March, and **Rudy Galindo** is a class act too.

And how was your week? ▼



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HISTORY LESSON

Who is Gore Vidal?

by David Bianco

May 1967 (33 years ago this month): Gore Vidal finishes writing *Myra Breckinridge*, the first American novel about a transsexual.

Born into a wealthy family in 1925 and raised near Washington, D.C., Eugene Luther Gore Vidal has politics in his blood. Vidal's maternal grandfather was Thomas P. Gore, a powerful U.S. senator from Oklahoma. Al Gore is a distant cousin. John F. Kennedy was his stepbrother-in-law. Vidal once told *Time* magazine that, in fact, "The only thing I've ever really wanted in my life was to be President."

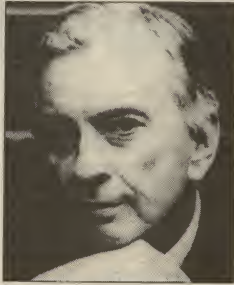
But it's as a novelist and critic that Vidal actually made his mark. After attending exclusive prep schools, Vidal enlisted in the army in 1943. "My war was not much," he admitted in his memoir, *Palimpsest*. He never saw battle and, out of boredom, began writing his first novel. Based on firsthand experience aboard an army freighter during a storm in the Bering Sea, *Williwaw* (1946) was published along with a host of other postwar war novels and received high marks from critics.

Eschewing a college degree, Vidal moved to New York City and embarked on a literary career. His second novel disappointed him, however, even though it received good reviews, and he decided to take a bigger risk with his next one. "I wanted ... to try something no American had done before," he said.

Although *The City and the Pillars* (1948) is now considered a classic of gay literature, it made reviewers' tongues wag because of its frank discussion of an affair between two young men and its daring suggestion that homosexual relationships were natural. Vidal dedicated the novel to "J.T." and loosely based one of the characters on his first male lover, Jimmie Trimble, a friend from prep school who was killed during active service in 1944. Despite the controversial subject matter (or perhaps because of it), the novel rushed onto bestseller lists.

Some prominent critics refused to review Vidal's next five novels, possibly out of homophobia. The lack of national attention marginalized his writing. "I was so dead-broke," Vidal told playwright Larry Kramer in 1992, "I went into television, movies, theater, politics." He even churned out three mystery novels under the pseudonym Edgar Box.

In 1954, Vidal decided to put fiction writing aside until he could make enough money to write whatever he pleased. He began living in Hollywood with his companion, Howard Austen, whom he'd met at the Everard Baths in Manhattan in 1950. For the next 10 years, Vidal earned a sizable income writing and collaborating on a string of successful teleplays and screenplays, including the script for his good friend Tennessee Williams's play, *Suddenly, Last Summer*, and for *Ben-Hur*.



Gore Vidal

During the early 1960s, Vidal also dabbled in the family business — politics. In 1960, he ran an unsuccessful campaign in New York state for a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. During the Kennedy administration, he served on the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

Ultimately, however, Vidal returned to fiction writing.

Julian (1964), based on the life of the fourth-century Roman emperor, established his distinctive literary style of intercutting humorous asides, gossip, and trivia into painstakingly researched historical novels. He went on to write a cycle of American history novels — beginning with *Washington, D.C.* (1967) and ending with *Hollywood* (1990) — in which he explored the seamy side of U.S. politics and gave fictional form to such famous historical figures as Aaron Burr, Ulysses S. Grant, and Abraham Lincoln.

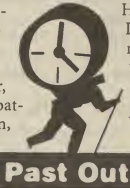
His greatest achievement as a novelist, however, may have been his most controversial book.

Vidal's experimental satire, *Myra Breckinridge* (1968), was the first American novel about a transsexual. The protagonist, Myron, is a gay man who has sex-reassignment surgery and is reborn as Myra. "To say Mr. Vidal's new novel is queer would be an understatement," wrote one critic. "It is a queer, queer book, a virtuoso exercise in kinkiness." According to Vidal, he wrote it in Rome "in one month, one spring, from new moon to new moon."

Two years later, the novel became a movie starring Rex Reed and Raquel Welch as Myron-Myra, with a script co-written by Vidal. Back then, the movie was a resounding flop that critics panned as "repugnant," "atrocious," and "as funny as a child molester," today it's a camp classic.

Beginning in the 1960s, Vidal also distinguished himself as a literary and social critic. Lauded as "America's finest essayist," Vidal has penned scores of droll, often biting commentaries on American culture and politics over the last three decades. "The chief play in a Vidal essay," noted one critic, "is to point out that the emperor has no clothes and then go a step further and remove the poor man's skin."

Although Vidal has lived with Howard Austen for 50 years, and although he has had numerous homosexual liaisons (with, among others, Jack Kerouac and dancer Harold Lang), he refuses to pigeonhole himself as "gay." Vidal asserts: "There is no such thing as a homosexual person. There are only homosexual acts." Despite his resistance to labels, however, some of Vidal's most passionate essays have dissected homophobia and sexual discrimination and were recently collected in the volume, *Gore Vidal: Sexually Speaking*. ▼



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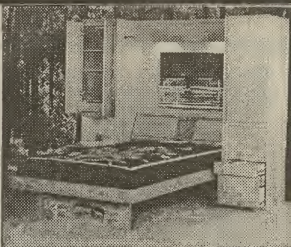
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Alleged hate crimes reported

by Jane Warner

1 9th and Collingwood, May 7, midnight: A man walking on 19th Street near Collingwood Park noticed four young men following him. When he turned the corner on Collingwood, the men ran up behind him and yelled, "You deserve to die, faggot." Two of the men grabbed him while another punched him in the face, back, and stomach. The victim fell to the ground and the attackers repeatedly kicked him about the body. During the 15-minute beating, one of the attackers threatened, "You're going to hell, faggot. You belong up on the fence with that other guy," apparently alluding to the beating death of Matthew Shepard in Wyoming.

The men robbed the victim of his jacket, took his money, and then fled northbound on Collingwood. The man staggered to a pay phone, where he called an ambulance. He was taken to the hospital and treated for head, back, and neck injuries.

The first suspect is described as African American, 19-24 years old, 6 feet 1 inch tall, weighing 230 pounds, with a medium complexion and muscular build, wearing a tan jacket. Suspect number two is Hispanic, 19-24 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 225 pounds, with a black pony tail, wearing a black leather jacket and black pants. Suspect number three

is Hispanic, 19-24 years old, 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighing 125 pounds, thin build, wearing a long red sleeve shirt and black pants. The fourth suspect is also Hispanic, 19-24 years old, 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighing 200 pounds, with a mustache, wearing a baseball cap and dark clothing.

Another attack

18th and Diamond, May 19, 3:30 a.m.: Two men reported while walking on 18th Street, two other men approached them, one of whom sarcastically said, "You cute mother fuckers." The suspect flicked a lit cigarette at their faces and the other attacker punched one of the victims in the head, telling them, "You know I can kick your asses."

Hearing the commotion, other people came around the corner and the suspects fled on foot toward Collingwood. The victims called 911 and told police they believe the attack was motivated by their being gay. Responding officers found the suspects sitting inside a white Toyota Camry fronting the Taqueria on 18th. Arrested for battery was Roy Abueg, 23, and Jason Jones, 25. Both men are also being investigated as suspects in the Collingwood hate crime.

Elbow room

Castro and Market, May 20, 12:30 p.m.: Muni called police to report that two women were fighting on the platform of Castro station. When officers arrived, they

found a woman on the ground in a pool of blood. The victim told police she was riding the train when a teenage girl sat next to her and complained she was too close. An argument ensued and the teenager challenged the woman to step off the train and fight. When the train topped at Castro, the woman got off, and the girl followed.

The suspect punched the woman in the nose and wrestled her to the ground where she grabbed her hair and slammed her head into a brick wall. Bystanders intervened and the suspect grabbed the woman's purse and got on the inbound L-train. Responding police radioed ahead, and officers arrested the girl at Van Ness station. The girl, 14, was booked for robbery and aggravated assault.

No sweat

A man who was wanted in connection with the burglary of Gold's Gym and the selling of stolen property to Starlight Records was arrested on a \$100,000 warrant.

The suspect, who is accused of breaking into lockers at the gym and selling CDs he allegedly stole during a residential robbery, was found working out in Gold's Gym and recognized by employees who called the police. Officers arrested the suspect without incident. Booked on the warrant was Jason Taylor, 24. ▼

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 679-1827.

LIFE

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staff, begins Thursday June 8 at the Women's Building and meets weekly from 4 to 6:30 pm.

Drawing on published research from peer-reviewed medical journals – the standard hallmark of scientific reliability – Leiphart began developing the LIFE program in San Francisco 15 years ago in rudimentary form," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. After registering the trademark and forming the nonprofit LIFE Foundation to administer it, he took the program with him to an AIDS organization in San Diego, where it has been operating since 1991. There, the program continues to be enormously popular, with groups running concurrently not only for HIV-positive men and women,

but for African-Americans, Latino/as, the visually impaired, and several other groups with special needs or cultural perspectives.

In addition to men's and women's groups, programs targeted to those with more specific characteristics are slightly modified for various reasons, Leiphart said, such as changing the exercise portions of the program for disabled people, or selecting facilitators who will reflect the experiences and views of many African Americans in working with their providers.

"I could show you hundreds and hundreds of studies," said Leiphart, giving an overview of his model's approach. "Research in the field of psychoneuroimmunology has demonstrated that there is a host of psychosocial cofactors that influence immune functioning. The key is the immune system's impact on devel-

opment of symptoms, disease progression, and survival."

Alternative or common sense?

"This is hard core science coming out of the University of California Los Angeles, Howard University, the University of Miami, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill," said Leiphart, noting that he has used current research to support the inclusion of the 21 "life issues" that comprise the intensive educational program.

"There's clear evidence that assertiveness increases natural killer cells," said Leiphart, giving one example. "Potent natural killer cells can kill HIV-free virus, as well as HIV-infected cells." One recent study of HIV-positive people with less than 50 CD4 cells using no treatments and yet remaining

next page ▶



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Navy continues harassment of gays

by Bob Roehr

Tommie Lee Watkins Jr. resigned from the U.S. Naval Academy in the spring of 1997 under threat of expulsion for being gay. Now the Navy is trying to recover \$67,000 for the three years of education he received.

Watkins was president of the class of 1998 and would have served as battalion commander during his senior year. The allegations of homosexuality stemmed from what Watkins described as "a dating relationship that was never physical." He said he resigned out of fear that he would not receive a fair hearing due to institutionalized homophobia.

An investigation by the Board for Correction of Naval Records concluded that "there was no finding of any aggravated homosexual behavior." It ruled that there were no grounds for seeking recovery of funds spend on Watkins's education.

But in March, Carolyn H. Becraft, assistant secretary of the Navy for manpower, overruled the board and ordered repayment through a process known as recoupment. She said Watkins's departure was voluntary.

"This is ridiculous," said William Ferris, a Maryland attorney who is representing Watkins in court. "He's told, we're going to throw you out and would you like to resign instead and he resigned."

Watkins says he is being prosecuted because he is "an African American homosexual." He points to the fact that nothing happened to the other person involved in the

non-physical relationship.

Michelle Benecke, co-director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, called recoupment "a vindictive practice." If the discharged person does not pay, their name is turned over to a collection agency and their credit rating suffers.

"It is bad enough that people lose their careers and their livelihood without the military pouring salt into the wound by trying to make it more difficult for them to get restarted in the civilian world," she said.

This is not the first time that Becraft, a political appointee, has negatively overruled the recommendation of her own board on action affecting a discharged gay service member.

Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) said that after he read a recent *Washington Post* account of the Watkins case, he spoke with Deputy Secretary of

Defense Rudy deLeon. "I was pleased to learn that he did not know about this," said Frank. "I am hoping that the Pentagon will agree that this is a violation of the policy and will drop this."

Frank has worked for years to stop the harassment of recoupment. "We began to get some individual cases protected under [George Bush's Secretary of Defense Richard] Cheney," he said. A series of policy changes by the Clinton administration have brought it to the point where "they pretty much have to show where there was conscious fraud."

Watkins, now 25, has since completed his education in Florida and is teaching at a private school in Miami. He was ordained as a minister while still in high school in Alabama. In February he opened a ministry for lesbians and gays at the Bethel African American Methodist Episcopal Church in Miami. ▼

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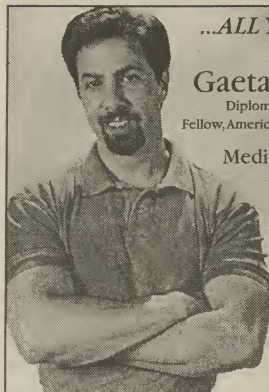
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LIFE

◀ previous page

healthy for a year or longer, he said, showed a direct association between measurably high levels of personal assertiveness and high levels of natural killer cells, confirming indications from earlier research.

Each week, working with one of four facilitators assigned to either the men's or women's groups, participants in the LIFE program will focus on one of the 21 cofactors that can influence and stimulate the immune system, guided by two manuals provided to everyone who enrolls.

Homework assignments, role-playing, mild exercises, small group discussions, and self-evaluation are also a part of the program.

Now, with no money changing hands, Leiphart, a trained clinical psychologist, is preparing to transfer administration of the immune-boosting seminars to his employer, Shanti.

"Shanti has been really supportive of the LIFE program," Leiphart told the B.A.R., adding that in the fall, another six-month workshop cycle for men will begin. And if the women's group enrollment fills up for the first series that begins in early June, other HIV-positive women will have another chance in the autumn as well. ▼

For more information or to register for the LIFE program, contact Dr. David Donovan at (415) 674-4713.

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Gay activist gets a chance to help animals

by Cynthia Laird



Frederick Hobson

Longtime gay rights activist Frederick Hobson now gets to help his animal friends in an official capacity, as he was recently appointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to the city's Commission on Animal Control and Welfare. For Hobson, who last year took city officials to task when they tried to stop him from feeding wild birds near his apartment, the appointment couldn't come soon enough.

Hobson, who is living with AIDS, wants the community to know he's there for them and any issues that come up concerning their pets. While the commission only has the authority to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on city policies governing animals, Hobson said he plans to

take a "realistic, pragmatic" approach to the job.

He credited Supervisor Mabel Teng with nominating him to the commission. Hobson also is involved with San Francisco Tomorrow, an urban environmental organization, and the Golden Gate Audubon Society.

"This commission is on the map," Hobson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "I'll try to be a voice of reason and push for animal protection."

One of Hobson's first official acts last month was voting to approve a recommendation discouraging San Francisco veterinarians from performing procedures such as declawing cats and debarking dogs, two things Hobson gets angry about. While that recommendation's fate is uncertain in terms of approval by the Board of Supervisors, Hobson said that most veterinarians won't do the procedures anyway. "Ninety percent of vets won't do it," Hobson said. "It's a recommendation and the board may not act, but it sends a message."

Lopping off as much as one-third of what amounts to a cat's fingertip, declawing can lead to infection, as well as limit a cat's ability to defend itself. Most cats, Hobson said, can be trained not to scratch things like leather furniture, or pet owners can use a spray bottle to curb the practice. Of course, cat owners also could purchase furniture that's less susceptible to damage by a feline, Hobson added.

And he should know — Hobson lives with cats and birds, who, he explained, get along just fine and don't destroy his belongings.

The slicing of a dog's vocal chords to prevent barking also gets Hobson going. "Debarking a dog takes away its language ability," Hobson said, adding that dogs continue to try to bark after the procedure. The practice has come about, he believes, because "we live in a crowded society," and some people who have dogs don't want them to disturb neighbors.

"Those two things, to me, are very unnecessary," he said.

Hobson also will advocate on behalf of those who want pets but may believe they aren't allowed to have them in apartments. "There are federal laws that require landlords to accept a pet if it's a companion animal to a disabled or senior person," he said, adding that service animals also are required to reside with their human companions. "A lot of agencies don't know anything about it."

"I see myself as a protector of animals," Hobson said, adding that he's against fur as a fashion statement. "I don't see the need to kill 20 minks to see some queen wear them."

Asked whether people who have pets are owners or guardians, Hobson pointed out that the commission last year recommended people be called pet guardians. It's a term he agrees with. ▼

The Commission on Animal Control and Welfare meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in room 408 in City Hall.

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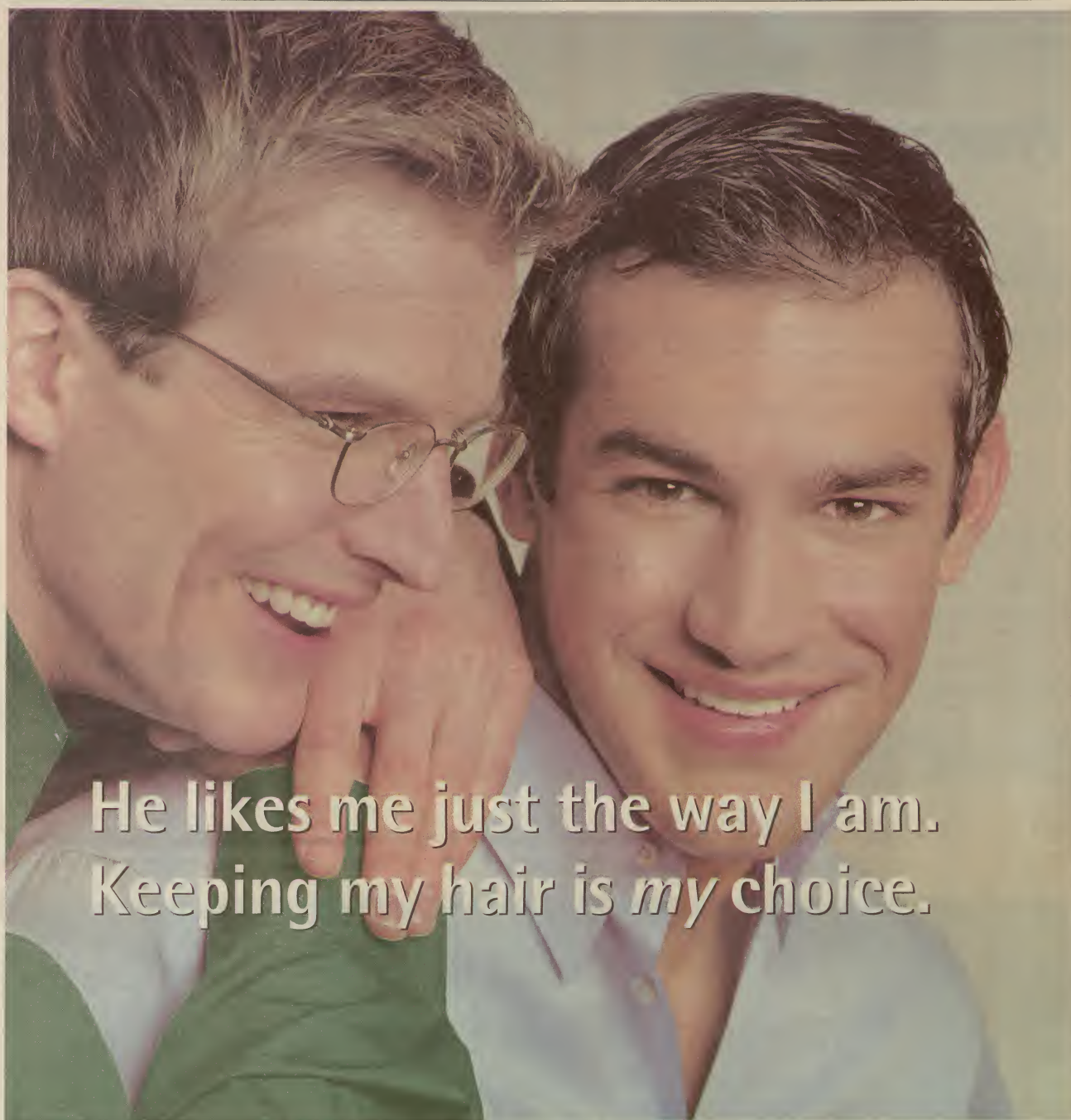
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IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION YOU SHOULD KNOW

PROPECIA is for men only. Women who are or may potentially be pregnant must not use PROPECIA because of the risk that the active ingredient may cause a specific kind of birth defect. (See accompanying Patient Product Information for details.) Likewise, they should avoid handling the tablets when they're crushed or broken. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling.

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Please read the next page for additional information about PROPECIA.

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Please read this leaflet before you start taking PROPECIA. Also, read the information included with PROPECIA each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss PROPECIA when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups.

What is PROPECIA used for?

PROPECIA is used for the treatment of male pattern hair loss on the vertex and the anterior mid-scalp area. PROPECIA is for use by **MEN ONLY** and should **NOT** be used by women or children.

What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s. Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

Results of clinical studies:

For 12 months, doctors studied over 1800 men aged 18 to 41 with mild to moderate amounts of ongoing hair loss. All men, whether receiving PROPECIA or placebo (a pill containing no medication) were given a medicated shampoo (Neutrogena T/Gel® Shampoo). Of these men, approximately 1200 with hair loss at the top of the head were studied for an additional 12 months. In general, men who took PROPECIA maintained or increased the number of visible scalp hairs and noticed improvement in their hair in the first year, with the effect maintained in the second year. Hair counts in men who did not take PROPECIA continued to decrease.

In one study, patients were questioned on the growth of body hair. PROPECIA did not appear to affect hair in places other than the scalp.

Will PROPECIA work for me?

For most men, PROPECIA increases the number of scalp hairs, helping to fill in thin or balding areas of the scalp. Men taking PROPECIA noted a slowing of hair loss during two years of use. Although results will vary, generally you will not be able to grow back all of the hair you have lost. There is not sufficient evidence that PROPECIA works in the treatment of receding hairline in the temporal area on both sides of the head.

Male pattern hair loss occurs gradually over time. On average, healthy hair grows only about half an inch each month. Therefore, it will take time to see any effect.

You may need to take PROPECIA daily for three months or more before you see a benefit from taking PROPECIA. PROPECIA can only work over the long term if you continue taking it. If the drug has not worked for you in twelve months, further treatment is unlikely to be of benefit. If you stop taking PROPECIA, you will likely lose the hair you have gained within 12 months of stopping treatment. You should discuss this with your doctor.

How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

- Take one tablet by mouth each day.
- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
- If you forget to take PROPECIA, do **not** take an extra tablet. Just take the next tablet as usual.

PROPECIA will **not** work faster or better if you take it more than once a day.

Who should NOT take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:
 - must not use PROPECIA
 - should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

In general use, the following have been reported infrequently: allergic reactions including rash, itching, hives and swelling of the lips and face; problems with ejaculation; breast tenderness and enlargement; and testicular pain.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

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Series of 'gay genes,' study suggests

by Ed Walsh

If heterosexual women mated only with jerks, male homosexuality would disappear. Loosely translated, that's what a researcher from the University of New Orleans is suggesting.

An analysis by Edward M. Miller, Ph.D., published in the *Archives of Sexual Behavior* (Vol. 29, No. 1, 2000), explored the evolutionary puzzle of how the genes, or alleles, responsible for homosexuality survived despite the low procreation rate of homosexuals.

The 34-page report suggests there is not one "gay gene" but a series of genes responsible for homosexuality. If all the gay genes are present, a person will be gay. If only some of the homosexual genes are present, an individual will be heterosexual but have some characteristics more closely linked with the opposite sex.

"Single alleles [in heterosexual men] make for greater sensitivity, empathy, tender-mindedness, and kindness," Miller wrote.

"These traits make heterosexual carriers of the genes better fathers and more attractive mates.

"It should be noted that there are good biological reasons for a female to seek a mate who is kind and considerate. He is more likely to give her resources for raising her offspring and not to harm her physically or to harm her emotionally by making her jealous."

So why are some women attracted to insensitive and unkind men, a.k.a. jerks? Miller suggests it may be because of a biological drive to lessen the chances of producing homosexual offspring.

"Females may have evolved so as to adjust their choice of mate to the genes their own body is carrying," Miller wrote. "If the genes they carry would make for an appreciable risk of homosexuality in their sons, they should choose a mate who is on the strongly masculine side, thus minimizing the risk of homosexuality. At the other extreme, if the women carry genes for masculine traits, they can mate with men carrying more of the feminine traits without an exception-

ally high risk of homosexuality in their sons."

Although the report focused on gay males, it suggested the genes responsible for lesbianism get passed on in a similar way to how they are passed along for male homosexuals. That is, a heterosexual woman who has some masculine traits may have more luck finding a partner.

"One may speculate that the greater reproductive success of those with masculinity producing genes is through greater success at mate acquisition," the journal report said. "An example would be when a tomboy is later better able to acquire a mate, because of her ability to talk about sports and other masculine topics (in Africa, hunting perhaps)."

"However, in many cases the advantage of a more masculine personality may not be in mate acquisition, but in being more effective in asserting herself and hence at acquiring the resources needed for her and her children. For instance, while the very feminine female may be most attractive to a male, one who is a little

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Eileen Hansen

◀ page 1

herself and the supervisor, namely her independence and grassroots ties that she says will serve a diverse group of constituents.

"I'm not at all happy with the direction in which the city is going," Hansen told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's headed in a direction defined by the mayor and his team, and I see Mark as a part of that team."

Which isn't to say Hansen doesn't give Leno credit for his work.

"Mark has done some laudable things within the queer community," Hansen acknowledged. "But when it comes to more broadly running a city our differences are much clearer. In terms of the queer youth shelter, we did take the same position and I was involved with trying to work with the neighbors and their concerns. The key difference is, I would have brought the neighbors into the discussion much earlier than he did."

Leno, for his part, said he welcomes the competition.

Calling Hansen a "good candidate and a fine individual," the supervisor told the *B.A.R.* that he is looking forward to the race.

"I have a strong record of which I'm proud. And I'm a very positive fellow by nature and will be running a very positive campaign," Leno said.

Hansen's platform will highlight transportation, housing, and preserving neighborhood character. A 12-year resident – and renter – of the Castro who rides public transit to work, she believes that in order to understand the issues that affect everyday residents, a person must live like one.

"Unless you're walking through the same dangerous intersections and using Muni and shopping at small independent businesses in the neighborhood, you can't understand what the concerns are," said Hansen.

"That's the great thing about district elections," she added. "The

candidate knows what's going on."

Hansen herself was involved with the push for elections that now require supervisors to live in the district they represent. But she said that while district elections will benefit constituents, supervisors must also be careful to look at issues more broadly.

"What's good for one district may not be good for another

when it comes to citywide issues," said Hansen. "I think the important thing is to always hear from the residents."

With her campaign just off the ground, details like additional endorsements and funding will likely follow in the coming months. In the meantime, the public can visit www.eileenhansenSF8.com for more information. ▼



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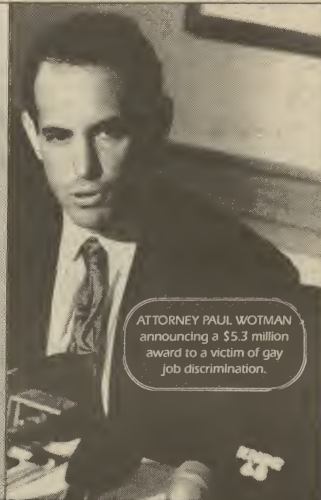
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Grand marshals

◀ page 1

a protocol."

Overall, the top vote-getters were DeGeneres, Cho, and Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, in that order. But the new method for counting votes meant that the honors went to DeGeneres, Ammiano, lesbian icons Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, and Williams and Mirikitani. Because some people who were unaware of the new tabulation process were a bit flustered by the outcome, and because the couple did not want to divide the community, Williams and Mirikitani withdrew their names from the marshal list on May 16.

In a letter to the Pride committee, the couple stated, "It is our



Margaret Cho

commitment to bring people together, not divide. We would not like for our integrity to be in ques-

tion, and therefore in the spirit of unity, compassion and support, we wish to withdraw our names from the Pride nominations for grand marshals."

Williams and Mirikitani also emphasized their support for LGBT causes, stating, "It has been our honor to work with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community for more than 35 years... We will be at the parade in solidarity, cheering you on!"

Gipson, while disappointed, said that he understands the couple's position, and stands by the committee's decision to choose the top marshal winners in each category.

The Pride Parade will now be presided over by Cho, Lyon and Martin, Ammiano, and the AIDS Emergency Fund, which won in the organization category. ▼

San Jose Pride

◀ page 1

a section devoted to the leather community, hosted by the Leather Masters store. For the interfaithful, the annual "Celebration in Spirit" gay pride service is Saturday night at 8 p.m. in the First Congregational Church at 1980 Hamilton Avenue.

Sunday is parade day, which means hometown ice skating champ Rudy Galindo will appear as the parade's celebrity grand marshal. Other grand marshals include Barbara McCullough Jones and BAYMEC, a South Bay gay and lesbian political organization. The Pride stage will feature Lauper and Watley, plus San Francisco's own Pansy Division, and disco favorites the Cheeseballs.



Cyndi Lauper

The Club Papi Latin Stage will feature heartthrob Javier Iglesias, Maye, Angelina & Spanish Fly, and the Julio Bravo Salsa Band. And an outdoor dance floor will showcase over 20 of the Bay Area's hottest deejays.

Saturday's festival begins at 10 a.m., and Sunday's parade begins at 9:30 a.m. at Market Street between Santa Clara and West San Carlos. Sunday's festival, which

runs from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., carries a \$7 entrance fee. Additionally, San Francisco merchants and organizations may be interested to know that vendor booth space is still available for both days.

More than 25,000 people are expected to attend the festival this year, which benefits the San Jose Gay Pride Committee.

For more information on San Jose Gay Pride, call (831) 338-2578. ▼



Jody Watley



Pansy Division will be one of the headlining acts at San Jose Gay Pride

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AIDS drug prices cut for poor countries

President Clinton signs executive order on drug licensing

by Liz Highleyman

Earlier this month, five major pharmaceutical manufacturers announced that they would cut AIDS drug prices for people in poor countries. The move comes in the wake of efforts by several developing countries, including Thailand, South Africa, India, and Brazil, to license the production of cheaper generic versions of anti-HIV drugs that are protected by U.S. and European intellectual property laws.

Boehringer Ingelheim, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Glaxo Wellcome, Merck and Company, and Roche Holding issued a joint statement announcing that they would offer AIDS drugs at prices as much as 90 percent lower than those in developed countries, "pennies above manufacturing costs." In doing so, the companies revealed the extent of their markup on AIDS drugs, which they claim is necessary to pay for pharmaceutical research and development. Glaxo said it would lower the price of its anti-HIV drug Combivir – a combination of AZT and 3TC in a single pill – to \$2 a day, about a fifth of the drug's current U.S. price.

The drug companies' May 10 announcement was hailed by some. According to Dr. Peter Piot of UNAIDS, who has been helping to broker the agreement for a month, "It's the first time the companies are collectively willing

to discuss a truly significant decline in prices. It is something many of us have hoped for."

Critics of the plan, however, say that even the reduced drug prices may prove prohibitively expensive for countries in which the average income may be as low as \$50 per month. According to Bernard Pecoul of the international medical aid group Medicins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders, "The fact that a serious discussion has begun among drug companies on dramatically reducing the price of AIDS drugs is a victory, but a small one, much like an elephant giving birth to a mouse. ... The reality is that despite this initiative, AIDS drugs will still be unaffordable for the vast majority of those in need in the poorest countries."

Other concerns include the potential for the development of a black market in anti-HIV drugs between countries with disparate drug prices, and the risk that sporadic use of the drugs in the absence of a solid public health infrastructure may do more harm than good. According to Jose Zuniga, executive director of the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care, "If the offer isn't well thought out and combined with funding to educate people about how to use the drugs or build health services to provide and monitor their use, the drugs' availability in Africa could be disastrous."

On the same day, President

Clinton signed an executive order stating that the U.S. government would not oppose efforts by countries in sub-Saharan Africa to produce or import less expensive local versions of patented drugs. According to U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky, "Given the devastating impact of AIDS, the United States will not require or negotiate restrictive rules in the intellectual property rights area." Clinton's move comes a week after

related to the drug's effectiveness, but rather to cost and concerns that his country may not have "a strong enough medical infrastructure" to deal with "potential toxicities and counter-indications."

Some activists accused Clinton of doing too little too late. On World AIDS Day last December, which coincided with a massive protest in Seattle revolving around the policies of the World Trade Organization, Clinton agreed to

drug pricing restrictions in Washington, D.C., last month in conjunction with a week of protests against the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund – criticized the order for only covering anti-HIV drugs and only being applicable to sub-Saharan Africa. "There are more killers than HIV/AIDS, and lots of folks who have AIDS in other countries."

The pharmaceutical industry also was critical of the order. Alan Holmer, president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, said that it sets "an undesirable and inappropriate precedent," and that "strong intellectual property protection is the only way to encourage [further anti-HIV drug] research."

Some activists believe that the agreement by the five pharmaceutical companies to lower their prices is largely an effort to forestall such exceptions to trade and intellectual property laws. According to Doctors Without Borders "This agreement does nothing to stimulate countries' rights to produce or import inexpensive high-quality generic drugs, a key component to long-term, sustainable solutions for improving access to essential medicines."

Said Sharon Ann Lynch of ACT UP/Philadelphia, "The pharmaceutical kingpins are attempting to prohibit African nations from creating self-sufficient solutions to the AIDS crisis. The strings attached to this price reduction amount to a noose." ▼

"If the offer isn't combined with funding to educate people about how to use the drugs or build health services to provide and monitor their use, the drugs' availability in Africa could be disastrous."

legislators removed a similar provision from the African Growth and Opportunity Act/African-Caribbean Basin Initiative trade bill.

Drug pricing and availability – specifically the manufacture and importation of cheaper versions of patented anti-HIV drugs – were among the issues discussed by Clinton and South African President Thabo Mbeki during a state visit on Monday, May 22. Mbeki clarified that his much-publicized skeptical stance on AZT was not

relax U.S. trade rules concerning patented drugs – which are more stringent than WTO rules that allow for compulsory licensing of generic drugs and parallel importing – saying, "The U.S. will henceforth implement its health-care and trade policies in a manner that ensures people in the poorest countries won't have to go without medicine they so desperately need."

Paul Davis, a member of ACT UP/Philadelphia – which organized a demonstration against

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Mysteries of HHV-8 and Kaposi's sarcoma

by Bob Roehr

The human herpes virus-8 (HHV-8) is "quite ancient," at least 100,000 years, according to Johns Hopkins University Professor Gary Hayward. There are "essentially four flavors" of the virus tied to human migration and evolution. HHV-8 has been linked conclusively to development of Kaposi's sarcoma when a declining immune system no longer can hold the virus in check.

How HHV-8 is transmitted remains a mystery. Another mystery surrounds why, in the U.S. and Europe, gay men are much more likely than the rest of the population to be seropositive for it.

These were some of the questions that researchers grappled with at the Fourth International AIDS Malignancy Conference at the National Institutes of Health, May 16-18.

There are no documented cases of HHV-8 transmission through commercial blood products, despite several patients having received transfusions from carriers of the virus. A low prevalence of HHV-8 among injection drug users is further indication that it is not blood-borne as is HIV and hepatitis C (HCV).

Dr. Jeffrey Martin, a researcher at the University of California at San Francisco, is puzzled as to why female sex workers have lower



UCSF's Dr. Jeffrey Martin

rates of HHV-8 infection than do gay men living next door.

He reviewed data on seven bodily fluids that could harbor HHV-8. "Any act that involves passage of these bodily fluids between gay men has to be considered fair game for transmission," said Martin. Sampling has found HHV-8 in the semen of 15 percent of gay men, while the saliva of those same men yielded more than twice that rate of infection, 35 percent.

It has been "very hard to find" HHV-8 in fecal matter, he said. Still, because initial research in the 1980s found a correlation between sexual practices such as rimming and being seropositive for HHV-8, that possible route of transmission continues to loom large in the minds of many.

"But mere presence of the virus in a bodily fluid does not mean that passing the fluid can transmit the virus," said Martin. Both HIV and hepatitis C are present in saliva, "but we do not believe that kissing is an important route of transmission" for them.

Research in the Republic of Cameroon in Africa has shown that rates of HHV-8 infection are low in children, but increase at a consistent rate of about 1.2 percent a year. By age 20, about half the population is seropositive for the virus. Patterns of infection reflect the serostatus of the mother and siblings of the child, but not

the father.

Kiss, kiss

Dr. Lawrence Corey, had a simple explanation for why gay men have such a high rate of HHV-8 infection: "They kiss everybody, their mother, their sisters, their boyfriends." The University of Washington researcher was being humorous but not facetious.

He has found that 35 percent of the gay men he tested are positive for HHV-8. In a detailed study of 27 gay men who carried HHV-8, 11 of whom also were HIV-positive, Corey took tissue and fluid samples once a week for four weeks.

He found that more than half of the men shed virus in their saliva at some point during the study. That was significantly higher than shedding found at any other body site. And the amount of virus being shed was 2.5 logs higher in saliva than in the next most active site.

A third group of gay men was asked to collect separate daily swabs from the genital, anal/rectal, and oral areas for 47 consecutive days. Corey and his colleagues were able to isolate HHV-8 DNA from 33.7 percent of the samples of saliva, but from only 1.3 percent of the anal samples and 0.3 percent of the urethral samples.

Those who shed the virus seemed to do so rather consistently. Men coinfecting with HIV seemed more likely to shed HHV-8, but the study was too small to reach a definitive conclusion.

Corey hypothesized from work with tissue cultures, "The wide spectrum of cell types that are infected suggests that cofactors may enhance the replication or transmission of HHV-8."

Subsequent experiments in tissue showed that "CMV [cytomegalovirus] markedly upregulates HHV-8 and produces higher titers of infectious virus than we have ever seen before." The lab is now looking to see if an active CMV infection in patients correlates with increased shedding of HHV-8 in saliva.

Corey concluded, "The prevalent next page ▶

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All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Clay Gunter

January 25, 1927 — May 16, 2000



Clay passed away after a failed aneurysm of the aorta operation at Kaiser Hospital, Oakland. He was a professional jazz clarinetist who has played and traveled on the road with big bands and played at many bars in San Francisco. He has provided wonderful music at such places as the Trap and The Swallow, and was part of a duo with Bob Sandners at many clubs as well. He retired from the Dept. of Education in San Francisco nine years ago.

Clay served in the Army and Air Force during World War II.

He is survived by his loving partner of 34 years, Ken, and friend Kevin. He leaves friends Leland and Mitchell of San Pablo and George of Santa Rosa, and many other friends all over the country. Clay loved flowers and propagation. He worked in his hothouse on a daily

basis. He loved music history, reading, and listening to jazz.

Clay will be greatly missed and will always be loved by those he left behind.

Mark K. Powell

February 25, 1959 — May 8, 2000



per his request.

He was loved by many, and will be missed by all. Surviving him are his mother, brother, sister-in-law, niece, and his partner of 14 years, Joel Kenn of Guerneville.

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Pioneering gay rights founder dies at 82

by Cynthia Laird

William Dale Jennings, a pioneering activist who co-founded the first major gay rights organization in the United States in the 1950s, died of respiratory failure in Los Angeles on May 11. He was 82.

Mr. Jennings helped found the Mattachine Society in the early

1950s after he was charged with indecent behavior in Griffith Park. He was acquitted by a jury in the case.

The Mattachine Society - which also involved gay pioneer Harry Hay, last year's San Francisco Pride Parade grand marshal - helped create the foundation for other gay rights organizations.

Mr. Jennings also co-founded ONE magazine, the country's first gay publication. The postmaster

began confiscating the magazine in 1954, contending it was obscene. It led to a landmark lawsuit that culminated in a 1958 Supreme Court decision that a publication dedicated to gay equality was not obscene.

An author, Mr. Jennings wrote *The Cowboys*, a novel that was later made into a movie starring John Wayne, as well as two other books, *The Ronin* and *The Sinking of the Sarah Diamond*. ▼

HHV-8

◀ previous page

lence and titers of HHV-8 are so much higher in saliva that it has to be a major form of transmission." He believes that the virus is much more common than is currently thought. As with many ubiquitous infections, such as Epstein-Barr virus, a healthy immune system readily controls it. Problems emerge as that response becomes severely compromised.

Lesions

"As our knowledge of HHV-8 has evolved, it has become clear that something in addition to infection of the host is necessary for Kaposi's sarcoma" to develop, said Dr. Margaret Offermann, a researcher at Emory University. One is that the virus must infect endothelial cells, the first layer of cells lining the passageways through which blood flows.

Working with tissue cultures, Offermann found that the cytokine interferon alpha did not completely protect a cell from HHV-8 but it did dramatically reduce infection. It appears to set off a chain reaction of events that "decreases protein synthesis" and makes it more difficult for the virus to reproduce.

"Interferon protects endothelial cells from infection with HHV-8. It reduces the amount of virus that gets into the cells," she said.

When cells are already infected, interferon "enhances elimination of the virus infected cells."

Offermann said, in contrast, the cytokine "TNF-alpha enhances the rate of infection of endothelial cells with HHV-8, leading to higher levels of viral gene expression."

Modulating these, and perhaps other immune functions, offers a promising line of inquiry for developing therapy for Kaposi's sarcoma. ▼

Gay gene

◀ page 17

more tough-minded is better at competing with another wife or mistress for the resources he is able to provide. Depending on the environment, the optimal level of masculine traits, such as assertiveness, varies.

"Thus, for lesbians as for male

homosexuals, an occasional sexual orientation that is not conducive to reproductive success is the price paid for having mechanisms in place that provide optimal variability in personality."

Dr. Laura Schlessinger and others may still call homosexuality a "biological error," but if this new research holds up, more and more scientists may be calling it a biological necessity. ▼

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Grapple-rific

by Jim Provenzano

Big Event this weekend? No, not your backyard BBQ, but the Golden Gate Wrestling Club Memorial Wrestling Clinic and Tournament. Sure beats getting stuck on the Bay Bridge in the usual holiday gridlock.

Okay, it's this weekend, not last weekend, it's real wrestling, not pro wrestling, and it's here in San Francisco. So what better fun can be had than rolling around on a mat with some of the Bay's best gay grapplers — out of the closet at least. Along with them will be men and women from around the country who are visiting the Bay Area for what is becoming an annual tradition.

With technique clinics, open mat time, and a fun competition, as well as lots of good food and a group trek to the Concord Cup International Greco-Roman Wrestling Tournament, you can get a chance to meet gay and lesbian wrestlers, fans, and see some Olympic hopefuls compete in our area.

All wrestling events take place at Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood Street, at 18th behind Cala Foods. The Greco tournament takes place at Concord Pavilion. This is a chance to see some real Olympic contenders compete, unless you want to go to Dallas in June for nation-

als. Talk about heat waves.

The awards dinner is at the home of GGWC's guru, Gene Dermody. Info? Call (415) 821-2991. E-mail wrestler@pacbell.net or pitbullpup@hotmail.com, or visit Golden Gate Wrestling Club's Web site at <http://www.metaldesign.com/ggwc>.

Here's the schedule:

Friday May 26, 7-9 p.m., light practice and social activities.

Visitors will meet their hosts and get warmed up.

Saturday May 27, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., technique clinic, open mat time; 6-9 p.m., Concord Cup Greco Tournament.

Sunday May 28, 2-4 p.m., rules clinic and wrestling competi-

tion; 6-9 p.m., awards dinner.

Go. Wrestle. Watch. Enjoy.

Spare parts

Thanks to City Hall for "Get Knocked Down While Riding Your Bike to Work Day" May 15. Despite other news sources claiming it marred the hyped event, in which The Hat became The Helmet, the two bike/one motorcycle accident that occurred during the event accurately showed the prevalent dangers to cyclists in this city, except of course those who live and work on Valencia Street, or any bike-laned route like the Castro, where some seem to think Bike Lane spells SUVuppie double parking.

Jog dropper

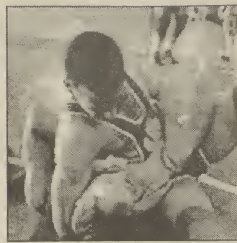
The fluttering of choppers overhead rousing me from sleep on a Sunday morning could only mean one of two things; I'd been once again transported back in time to the fall of Saigon, or it was Bay to Breakers.

Ah, San Francisco, where athletic events consist of shirtless frat guys in hula skirts guzzling beers while jogging up Hayes Street, where deely-bopping semi-nude aliens carouse with dot-com centipedes. Microsoft's came in first, but was disbanded in an antitrust lawsuit in the Upper Fillmore.

Hooray for the queer contingent, who carried the rainbow flag aloft during their run across town. The flag, now sponsored by Bresler's, comes in 31 colors.

Hell, Caesar

And speaking of competition, congratulations to Zuni, and its owner, Judy, for winning the "Best Chef in California" Beard Award. No, it's not about fake marriages,



Necking: Golden Gate Grapplers, from their 2000 calendar.

but named after master chef James Beard.

I actually worked at Zuni — for a day. Yes, with my impressive résumé of moving from a Burger Chef in rural Ohio to serving presidents at swanky affairs in New York, I had plenty of experience, but not enough, apparently, for Zuni, where obsessing about the angle of romaine chunk placement in the supposed best Caesar salad in the western hemisphere gives snooty waitrons neuroses enough to fill an Obsessive/Compulsive Disorder marathon. You can always tell how much a restaurant overcharges by the length of the aprons. It's roughage, people! Get over yourselves!

Anyway, my single day at Zuni didn't prove worthy to the employers, but I almost got a date. Other waiters were quizzed and prepped about that day's crudité as if the specials were quantum physics theorems.

As I busied tables, with no assistance from the others vying for a job, a *Playgirl* model took me aside and asked to be shown to the restroom. I couldn't even get that bit of flirting done without being one-upped by some snip named Brad.

Judy's thrilled to be a restauranteuse. I'm thrilled a business in my neighborhood isn't going to be replaced by a Walgreens. "Unless you blow it, you make them happy for it," Judy said in an interview with a news service that is still considering broadcasting Laura Shitslinger's show.

There is a certain sort of masochism required to enjoy serving food to people who consider you subhuman. To make a long diatribe short, sometimes we should be happy not to get lowly jobs that we'd end up hating anyway. Thanks, Judy. You still owe me a day's pay.

Snot tee

And to over-hyped, misinformed, self-aggrandizing twerp Dan Savage, the fact-deprived filler "faggot" columnist for faux-liberal, faux-local corporo-weeklies, for his flatulent swipe at this publication as being "obsessively

next page ►

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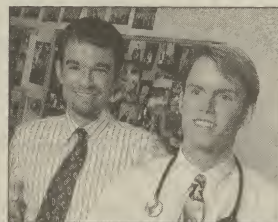
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Pat Christen

◀ page 3

about \$108,000 to \$140,000, got raises of around 4 or 5 percent.

Explaining that the executive director, rather than the board, sets compensation for staff members under her supervision, Payne referred questions concerning the financial manager's raise to Christen.

But at press time, Christen had not returned a call seeking comment on the information reported to the IRS.

Payne did, however, volunteer a possible explanation for Christen's decision to disproportionately boost Henderson's income.

"Some of that was because [Henderson] got a special bonus because of Pat's maternity leave last year," Payne said.

Christen took a four-month maternity leave in fiscal 1998-99, Henderson later confirmed, adding that in addition to a "small bonus," his compensation included a "temporary raise."

Client services director Susan Haikalis, meanwhile, was bumped off the top five earners list by Ralph Jennings, SFAF's budget and fiscal contracts manager, who took in \$108,793 last year, including benefits.

Overall, the ASO's approximately 100 employees' total salaries actually decreased to \$5,068,011 last year, a cut of \$184,742 from a total of \$5,252,753 in 1997-98.

SFAF's five highest paid independent contractors also are reported on the 990. Among them, Pallotta and Associates got the same amount for producing the 1999 California AIDS Ride as in 1998: \$180,000. Miller, Zeichik and Associates, which produces the annual AIDS Walk, also got flat funded, receiving \$95,000 for producing last year's event - also the same amount as the previous year. ▼

Mbeki in SF

◀ page 5

dissidents who believe that HIV does not cause AIDS to "religious fanatics," and - perhaps most controversial - his decision not to provide AZT to pregnant women with AIDS to help prevent transmission of the virus to their infants.

Epidemiologists estimate that one in 10 South Africans, or about 4.2 million people, are infected with HIV.

"Clearly there has been some misunderstanding of what we have said. ... We have never said there is no connection between HIV and AIDS. I don't know where that report came from," Mbeki told reporters in Washington on Tuesday

after receiving an honorary degree at Howard University.

After Wednesday's address, Mbeki was asked by an audience member to directly address his position on these matters.

"There is a problem of AIDS in South Africa, and in Africa generally, which requires a strong and determined response," Mbeki acknowledged, adding that what his country needed was a strong prevention campaign that included condoms. He lauded the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which has recently come to the aid of his government in "putting together" the disparate sides of the HIV controversy as part of the advisory panel.

Emphasizing that he is not a scientist, he also tried to explain

how his interest in the HIV/AIDS connection began.

"Because of the scale of the problem, many, many of us in government tried to understand this problem as closely as possible," he said, adding that "some of us had to be reading to understand this problem ... to make sure that we understood the problem in a more focused way."

Mbeki carefully explained that the problem of AIDS in his country, which faces monumental problems of poverty, hunger, and unemployment, is different than in the U.S. As he has in other recent forums, Mbeki took the opportunity to note that Africans face other epidemic diseases, notably malaria, which affects over 400 million people each year and causes a million deaths, mostly among children. ▼

DADT lawsuit

◀ page 5

you don't show up or you resign, or you engage in misconduct, that's grounds for scholarship recoupment," Collier told the B.A.R. "There's a subset of regulations for a gay discharge, which is, if someone comes out in order to be discharged, the scholarship must be paid back. This rule is more set up for people who aren't gay, who say they're gay to get out. In my client's case, there's no evidence that he made the statement to get discharged. The Air Force is simply assigning intent to his words."

While even those opposed to

DADT may agree that coming out is asking for a discharge, it is important to note that Hensala came out in 1994, just as the policy had taken effect, when nobody knew its true potential. In any case, that's not the issue.

"The issue is the Air Force has a policy outlining under which circumstances they will order recoupment, and my situation is not one of those cases," said Hensala. "So this is one area where this case may in fact be precedent-setting."

Regardless of whether Hensala thought he would be discharged - and he didn't - a discharge is only one element of the scholarship policy, according to Collier. And the Air Force, as opposed to other

branches of the military, tends to recoup scholarships from most of its gay discharges.

"It's in direct violation of the regulation," said Collier. "We hope to put an end to this financial witch-hunt." ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

out of touch." First, dweeb, that's an oxymoron, and second, anyone who shills his own child to hawk books or hocks boogers as a political act has flimsy legs to stand on when it comes to integrity, or out-of-it-ness.

While I have no say in editorial content for the B.A.R., word has it

Dan Slobbage is really ticked because we chose not to give him full-page coverage for his latest stupid book. No doubt his next one will be an acidic and skimpy tome about Mucous Daycare. But of course I don't want to upset such a scion of journalism, whose motto in giving sex advice harkens toward Ronald Reagan's famous quote, "Facts are stupid things." After all, if we tick him off, he'll probably blow snot on our doorknobs, too. ▼

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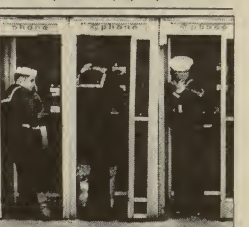
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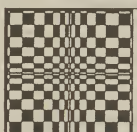
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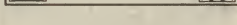
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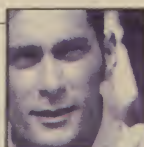
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'Book Report' returns to teenage days
Jane Summer revisits adolescent pain in
her first published novel, 'The Silk Road.'
page 36

On the right track
First US openly gay
track coach writes book.
page 41



Crime of 'Passion'
Alain Berliner's wrong
turn, 'Passion of Mind.'
page 32



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 30 • No. 21 • 25 May 2000

"Suitcase" (1961-63) (mixed media)
from 2000 BC: The Bruce Conner Story Part II
M.H. de Young Memorial Museum
Golden Gate Park
Through July 30

BEAT ANGEL by Will Shank

Rummaging in Bruce Conner's attic



The name of the exhibition 2000 BC: The Bruce Conner Story Part II may sound like a Monty Python or a Mel Brooks movie, and Bruce Conner can be a funny guy. (When asked, during a press preview, about the nature of the avant-garde and how he manages to keep "fresh," Mr. B.C. answers, "Well, I use underarm deodorant, and I take a bath every morning.") But his art is serious stuff, and his reputation as a key figure in the art and filmmaking of the mid-20th century is firmly established.

The Part II part of the title indicates that this exhibition is not, I repeat not, a retrospective, but rather a select segment of Conner's enormous oeuvre since the 1950s. (So far, there is no Part I, but the artist is working on it, along with five other parts, for a total of seven.)

What the audience at the de Young gets is still a pretty wide view of Conner's career beginning in 1954 and stretching up to 1996. Many of his best pieces are included. The non-retrospective was organized by the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, last seen at the Museum of Modern Art in Ft. Worth, and moves on next to MoCA in Los Angeles. As the artist told me during a walk-through of the galleries, he has been a co-curator of the show at each of its venues. For a man who has survived bouts of fragile health, it is a significant accomplishment; and at 66, he now appears hardy.

A native of Kansas and a San Francisco resident since 1958, Conner was a key visual artist in the Beat scene, along with Jay DeFeo, Joan Brown and Manual Neri. His creepy assemblages, with their come-fuck-me-in-a-dusty-old-attic aesthetic, attracted immediate attention in the late

page 37 ►

Alien invasion: Four Ed Wood films out on DVD

GRAVEROBBER AND DRAG QUEENS FROM OUTER SPACE

by Gary Morris



It's more than a little ironic that the seediest director is getting the royal treatment on DVD. Yes, tranny auteur Ed Wood's masterworks are now available in sharp transfers from Image Entertainment. The earliest, *Glen or Glenda*, aka *I Changed My Sex* (1953), is to some observers Wood's masterpiece, eclipsing even the prodigious achievement of *Plan 9 from Outer Space* in sheer brazen weirdness. It begins as a cheapie problem drama, but through Wood's combination of naiveté and brio becomes a dizzy mix of philosophical rant, religious allegory, social critique, exploitation flick, and softcore porn.

The film presents all manner of outrageous and fetishized images, carefully surrounding them with the respectable scientific and medical commentary necessary

to get the film released. Thus we see drag queens prancing up and down the street ogling bra shop windows, or enjoying a quiet moment at home fondling their angora, while a doctor explains that "a transvestite is not a homosexual!"

Wood himself plays the title characters, but even his weird performance is eclipsed by the bondage sequences, which feature scantily clad beauties tying each other up, dreamscapes of disapproving "normals" (parents, priests) attacking poor Glen/Ed, and "the devil" presiding over it all. Wood's loose structure allows for all kinds of unpredictable fun, including broad humor (a drag queen milkman) and campy dialogue ("Little Miss Female, you should be proud!"). *Glen or Glenda* is a startling avant-garde document that, using Wood's own transvestitism and the Christine Jorgensen headlines, still seems ahead of its time.

A year later, Wood made *Jail Bait*
page 37 ►



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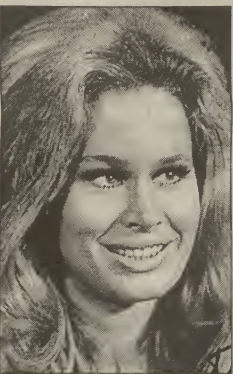
by Roberto Friedman
 and Beau Ziegfeld

They always go in threes: RIP legendary thespian **Sir John Gielgud**, gay as a box of birds; flautist **Jean-Pierre Rampal**, who wasn't gay, but whose music sure was; and romance "novelist" **Dame Barbara Cartland**. Somewhere there's a cocktail party in heaven.

Back to the material world: When we were picking up our tix for the *Honcho* version of *Edward II* at ACT last week, the woman ahead of us in line at the box office smiled sweetly and said she was there to get tickets for "Chris' girlfriend" (that would be **Christopher Baker**, who plays *Edward's* boyfriend.) Another fantasy shattered.

But Out There still says, "Ho ho ho!" It'll be Christmas in July this summer as **Ho-stess Huestis** presents a red-hot ho-otenanny, *Ho-Down with Karen Black* — *A Summer Camp Extravaganza*, featuring the Oscar nominee/cult icon in the flesh, on Friday, July 21.

Pull his string, and our mo-fu 'ho of the 'Stro talks! "I wanted to celebrate the 5th Year Anniversary of my Castro X-travaganzas with a bang," says Huestis. "Who else but the flaming **Karen Black** could set off the fireworks? This shining star of 125 films, including *Five Easy Pieces*, *Easy Rider*, *The Day of the Locust*, *Nashville* and of course, *Trilogy of Terror*, will be queried about her impressive body — of work — and even croon a tune or two."



Karen Black in Nashville



Arturo Galster as Patsy Cline

Not only will *La Black* revel in her offbeat career, but the Hostess has announced the comeback of a legend, **Arturo Galster**, who will revive her acclaimed *Patsy Cline* and the *Memphis G-Spots in Concert*, the underground sensation of the '80s and beyond. Also heehawing us through the Castro night will be the remarkable **Connie Champagne** and the stunning debut of **Matthew Martin** and his real-life, real-girl sister **Mary** as *The Juggs*.

Courtesy of Sandcastle 5 Productions (filmmaker **Robert Altman's** team), Huestis has scored a minor coup, a rare screening of *Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. This 1982 cult fave shines a spotlight on *La Black's* finest work (as Josephine) and has an incredible ensemble of 'tresses — **Cher** (before her "work"), **Kathy Bates** (before she became famous) and **Sandy Dennis** (before her untimely passing).

Set in the dusty Texas town where *Giant* was shot, this reunion of the gals of the **Jimmy Dean** fan club features perhaps the greatest portrayal of a tranny ever. It has not shown theatrically in years and is not available on video, so now's your only chance to see it on the big screen. *Quelle shindig*, Hostess.

Be the first on your Black, we mean block, to get tix by calling (415) 863-0611 or e-mailing hostess@best.com. Say Out There sent you and get \$1 off, because we're shameless. Tickets (sans discount) are available at A Different Light, and partial proceeds benefit ADL's Readers and Writers Conference.

Art with balls

Artist **Matthew Barney** was present in the flesh at the press screening of his latest film, *Cremaster 2: The Drones' Exposition*, which receives its West Coast premiere as part of Barney's new installation at SFMOMA, through September 5. For those who were wondering, yes, the 33-year-old former model is better-looking than you; a former Yale footballer, he's also in better shape; and the darling of the art world is charming to a fault, even modest in fielding questions from the press.

The cremaster muscle is what yanks your testicles back into your body when you jump into the icy surf. Now, we know some gay observers don't like the fact that the most successful young male artist doing ostensibly "gay" art isn't gay at all; but if Barney has staked out as his territory an investigation into the masculine, the fetishization of male uniforms from athletic gear to cowboy outfits, a love of self-lubricating plastic, and real clinical stuff about



Matthew Barney as Gary Gilmore in *Cremaster 2*

sexual differentiation, it's because he has the vision and the will to tackle these themes. We don't feel like punishing him because he's straight.

As SFMOMA director **David Ross** pointed out at the media preview, Barney's *Cremaster* show occupies an appropriate place between the recently-opened **René Magritte** show and an exhibit of contemporary gay artist **Robert Gober** coming up in June. Both the Belgian Surrealist and Barney get big bang out of the juxtaposition of scale, and the *Cremaster* series operates on a scale as big as geographical space, and as small as biological space. (Looking ahead, if a typical Gober sculpture appears to be a sink, for example, it seems no less about the human body.)

The latest *Cremaster* installment can be as slow and majestic as glacial retreat; more than a story about executed murderer **Gary Gilmore** or the hive society of Mormon Utah, it's a complex portrait of the Rocky Mountains themselves. *Cremaster 2* also features the best use of animals in a film this year, from a bucking Brahma bull to a hive of bees, a French bulldog, and heterosexual author **Norman Mailer** (playing Barney hero **Harry Houdini**).

Feeling festive yet?

The impressive line-up for the 3rd annual National Queer Arts Festival, June 1-July 4, includes readings by author **Edmund White** from his new novel, *The*



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QSF

THEATRE

Mixing it up

'Whatever Happened to Sister George?'

by Richard Dodds

Theatre Rhino includes both gay and lesbian programming in its annual subscription series, unlike the gay-male Pride Season of New Conservatory. It's a noble effort that can be a box-office dilemma. Audiences tend to segregate themselves.

But the current attraction has the ingredients of crossover appeal, combining a campy gay sensibility with a story populated with lusty, libidinal lesbians. Maybe you can have your cake and eat it, too.

Take the title of F. Allen Sawyer's new comedy, *Whatever Happened to Sister George?* It combines the quintessentially camp movie *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?* with *The Killing of Sister George*, one of the first movies about an unabashedly out lesbian. Both films, Sawyer points out in his program notes, were directed by Robert Aldrich.

But in this satirical burlesque that can be alternately dumb, silly, and inspired, Sawyer doesn't keep his pop-cultural references to just two movies. Among the sources that find their way into this story of an actress famous as a TV nun are *The Sound of Music*, *The Flying Nun*, *The Nun Story*, *The Mod Squad*, *All About Eve*, *Mildred Pierce*, *Ellen*, *The Children's Hour*, *Personal Best*, and even *The Lucy Show*.

Most of the play is set in 1962 when, because the beloved Audrey Hepburn is about to play a possible lesbian in *The Children's Hour*, the star of *The Adventures of Sister George* is convinced by an Eve Harrington-type protégé that her character should come out to help



Ginger Eckert, Sandy Schlechter, and Stephanie Taylor in *Whatever Happened to Sister George?* at Theatre Rhinoceros

boost ratings. The ratings do skyrocket, but soon the network insists that Sister George must be killed to atone for the character's depravity. Both the protégé and the star wind up as invalids under the care of a Baby Jane-type haridan who morphed from Thelma Ritter's character in *All About Eve*. Got all that straight?

Writer-director Sawyer, whose credits include *Hot Pants Homo* and *Gross Indulgences: The Trials of Liberace*, obviously knows his gay cultural icons. That the same gay sensibilities are used to create an all-lesbian show business milieu — a sort of female drag show — didn't seem to interfere with the cross-gender laughter on opening night.

What sometimes did put a damper on the merriment was an intermittent cloddishness to the script, especially in the scenes from the TV show, that crossed the line from the absurdly silly to the slapdash juvenile. And while most of the cast is the groove, at least a couple lack the comic finesse to make their moments fly.

Stephanie Taylor is miscast as the older, coarser Sister George, and she pushes too hard at times to make up for it. It's still an energized performance that commands attention if not all the laughter it should. As the wide-eyed Eve Harrington-type schemer, Ginger Eckert is perfectly in tune with the silly/sophisticated tone of the script. So, too, are Connie L. Noble as a network executive and Sandy Schlechter in the Thelma Ritter-Bette Davis role. But Elizabeth Marie as an ambitious starlet needs more control to land her laughs.

Whatever Happened to Sister George? starts out shakily, but once it's up to speed, the jokes come so quickly that it's not a catastrophe when some misfire. With some polishing of the script and the cast, it could be a classic travesty. ▼

Whatever Happened to Sister George? will run at Theatre Rhino through June 17. Tickets are \$12-\$22. Call 861-5079.

Out There

◀ page 30

Married Man, and by avant-garde NYC poet John Giorno (6/9, 6/3, respectively); a performance by composer Pauline Oliveros and a lecture/demo with New Music composer/vocalist Meredith Monk (6/6, 6/8); all at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy, 4235 19th St. Other highlights include two screenings of Rosa Von Praunheim's new film, *The Einstein of Sex*, about sexologist Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld (6/27); and Joe Goode Performance Group's *Undertaking Harry II* — that's Harry as in gay rights pioneer and faerie elder Harry Hay — (6/1-4) at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

The art world will be immeasurably enriched by the advent of *Odyssey and Underworld*, a showing of the art of queer artists Jerome Caja, Charles Sexton and Thomas Plageman, opening 6/4, running Wed.-Sun. through 6/22 at SomArts gallery, 934 Brannan St.

A certain number of events that would have happened otherwise — SF Symphony's *American Mavericks* fest's salute to gay composer Lou Harrison (6/15); the *In the Street* theater fest in Duboce Park (6/2); the SF Lesbian & Gay Dance Fest at Dancers Group (6/12-18) — have been subsumed under the QAF umbrella; we say the more, the merrier. Visit the website at www.queerculturalcenter.org. ▼

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Less is Moore

Demi dreary in 'Passion of Mind'

by Robert Julian

When Hollywood calls, talented European directors have a hard time saying no. Alain Berliner made quite a splash in 1998 with *Ma Vie en Rose*, a brilliant, funny, and illuminating look at gender identity. So, like Max Ophuls, Fritz Lang, and many others before him, Berliner gave his first American movie. Unfortunately, it is *Passion of Mind*, a dreadful Demi Moore vehicle which opens tomorrow.

Ron Bass and David Field produce a screenplay which springs from an idea Bass came up with a decade ago. Marty (Moore) is an unmarried Manhattan literary agent who dreams nightly of an alter-ego named Marie (Moore, again), a widow with two children who lives in France. Marie also dreams of Marty. Which woman is real, and which is the dream? Marie and Marty both see psychiatrists, and each woman takes a lover at the same time. In Manhattan, it's Aaron (William Fichtner), and in France, it's William (Stellan Skarsgard). The men are never allowed to sleep all night with their female lovers (for fear of *dreamus interruptus*), and the guys, understandably weirded out by the situation, push Marty and Marie toward a resolution. I suppose it could have worked, but based on the outcome, Bass should have left this idea in the dustbin.

Demi Moore is vacuous in both roles. Her performance is so bad the audience was laughing out loud during several of Moore's serious moments. This dual role calls for an actress with depth, someone like Juliette Binoche,



Chaya Cuenot and Demi Moore in Alain Berliner's *Passion of Mind*

who can portray self-knowledge and contemplative thought. Moore, even with violins in the background, is totally out of her depth. Her interaction with William Fichtner in the Manhattan scenes is adequate (in spite of the fact that her makeup veers toward Kabuki), but Moore and Stellan Skarsgard have no chemistry whatsoever. All the actors in the film struggle with a heavy-handed screenplay that is overproduced and leaden. Given the script and its cast, there isn't much any director could do with this movie. Certainly, Berliner does nothing original or compelling to bring this story to the screen.

One might assume that Berliner simply surrendered to the studio and his leading lady, because *Passion of Mind* is a Hollywood production from start to finish. The credits reveal that Moore not only had three personal assistants, but

her own hairdresser, makeup artist, costume designer, and security staff. It's hard to believe it takes so much help to be so bad. If Moore keeps making films like this, she'll end up the next Debra Winger.

The late, great Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski took a similar dual-identity theme and turned it into a fascinating film, *The Double Life of Veronique* (1991), with Irene Jacob. But by the time *Passion of Mind* gets around to revealing who is real and who is Memorex, the audience no longer cares. Cinematographer Eduardo Serra captures the beauty of Provence, and I was personally grateful for a brief sample of Julie London's classic "Cry Me a River." However, the simple delights of pretty scenery and familiar tunes do not a movie make. If I weren't reviewing, I wouldn't have stuck around long enough to see or hear either. ▼

Flapper-age frolic

42nd Street Moon's 'Funny Face'

by Richard Dodds

There's a surviving production photo of the "High Hat" number from the original *Funny Face*. Twenty-four gents in top hats and tails are in mid-dance step. At the center, his hands innocently in his pockets, is the unmistakable presence of a very young Fred Astaire.

That the song is lesser Gershwin arriving with scant motivation in the silly story probably didn't matter. After all, you had a stage packed with tuxedoed hoofers led by Fred Astaire. Who could ask for anything more?

As 42nd Street Moon presented the number with 18 or so fewer dancers and without Fred Astaire, imagination was needed to refine the magic amid the all-too-visible seams of the 1927 vehicle. To the credit of the cast and director Bonnie Hellman, that imagination was not hard to come by in this and most of the moments that were so slap-happily combined 73 years ago under the title *Funny Face*.

San Francisco's theater company dedicated to resurrecting "lost" musicals opened its eighth season with a short run of *Funny Face* at the Gershwin Theatre on the USF campus. It's part of a new tradi-



Martin Lewis in *Funny Face*

tion of opening big before moving into the more intimate quarters of the troupe's regular home, now at the Eureka Theatre.

In addition to augmenting the usual single-piano accompaniment with a small orchestra, the move to the larger hall permitted choreographer Berle Davis to cre-

ate more than token representations of the dances that punctuate almost every number. After all, this was originally a vehicle for siblings Fred and Adele Astaire.

Because Adele would soon choose to disappear from the public eye, it's surprising for contemporary audiences to see that *Funny Face* is more about Adele as the happy-go-lucky ingenue than Fred, who was cast as her sober guardian.

At 42nd Street Moon, Lianne Marie Dobbs friskily played Frankie, whose fanciful diary could cause her guardian (the big-voiced Martin Lewis) embarrassment at the country club, should it circulate. He looks it in a wall safe, along with another ward's valuable bracelet, and when pretend thieves wind up with the bracelet and real thieves with the diary, it somehow sends the whole troupe to a frolic at the beach.

Slapdash dish

The book is obviously a slapdash affair (the show was hurriedly and extensively rewritten out of town), but it sufficiently pleased audiences, thanks to the onstage personalities and the efforts of the brothers Gershwin. *Funny Face* has George and Ira on the cusp, churning out both the rinky-dink

page 45 ►

What if...?

Kevin Brownlow's WW II fable at Roxie

by Matthew Kennedy

A voiceover early in *It Happened Here* sets the stage: "The German invasion of England took place in July 1940, after the British retreat from Dunkirk. Strongly resisted at first, the German army took many months to restore order. But the resistance movement, lacking outside support, was finally crushed. Then, in 1944, the resistance movement reappeared..."

Such is the invention behind *It Happened Here* (1964), Kevin Brownlow's recently restored movie coming to the Roxie Cinema, May 26 to June 1. The personal story in this alternate outcome to World War II concerns an apolitical nurse, played with effective reserve by Pauline Murray. With no immediate alternatives, she aligns herself with the British National Socialist party, essentially a product of the Allies' defeat and the Nazis' ideological invasion of England. She comes to see the cost of her complicity, but her apparent deliverance from hell only plunges her deeper into an ethical quagmire.

It Happened Here feels like a steady assault on the soul. Brownlow keeps the action low-key — killing is casual and unheralded. Street melees have a desperate futility to them. There are no easy German targets nearby. The big bad Nazis, such convenient movie villains, are nearly entirely purged from *It Happened Here*. The swastika is replaced by an English lightning-bolt armband insignia. In one particularly strong scene, the English version of the Final Solution is rendered, where one British officer casually says the Jew is "like a flea on a dog." One resistance member notes with stinging accuracy that "the appalling thing about fascism is that you've got to use fascist methods to get rid of it."

Without any hair-pulling, teeth-gnashing or full-throated screaming, *It Happened Here* forces the viewer to reflect on collaboration. And this most disturbing point-of-view is personified in Murray, who is in nearly every scene. It would be misleading to call her a hero; there are no such creatures in *It Happened Here*. She is us — human, plain and simple. Her beaten and



From *It Happened Here*

world-weary face reveals the cost of so much day-to-day evil.

Lockstep out

There are maybe two or three moments of minor humor in *It Happened Here*'s 96 minutes. Otherwise, it's grim shots of a bombed London, troops marching in lockstep, and close-ups of defeated and desolate faces. Brownlow, the film's editor, photographer, co-director, producer, and writer, uses zoom shots and jump cuts effectively — one sequence on a bus is positively Eisensteinian in its fractured perspectives and disquieting chaos.

The end result is even more impressive when considering the tortured gestation of *It Happened Here*. The Brownlow endurance test may give pause to even the most stout-hearted of struggling filmmakers. It helps to be precocious; Brownlow was 18 and co-director Andrew Mollo was 16 when shooting began on this grave supposition in 1956. Bad luck, ill fate, and the absence of a budget forestalled completion. A truckload of saviors, too many to list in the credits, worked for nothing or quietly

bankrolled the project. No less than eminent directors Tony Richardson and Stanley Kubrick interceded to goose the movie into completion. It wasn't until 1964 that *It Happened Here* was finished to coherent form and released for commercial showings.

If the name Kevin Brownlow is not immediately recognizable, it isn't because he was a fast flame in the movie biz. Quite the contrary, London-based Brownlow went on to become probably the world's greatest film historian and restorer. He wasn't yet 12 when he began collecting footage of Abel Gance's 1927 *Napoleon* to later restore. He produced the 13-part *Hollywood* in 1980 for British TV, and more recently, *Cinema Europe* for Turner Classic Movies. Anyone vulnerable to the inherent poignancy of old movies will revel in these documentary masterpieces. Brownlow transformed himself into a salvage anthropologist, interviewing dozens of great early directors and players (including Colleen Moore, Alan Dwan, King Vidor, Blanche Sweet, and Louise Brooks) before they died.

His 1968 epic tome *The Parade's Gone By* is the essential history of silent Hollywood. Just last year, he published a stunning new book on Mary Pickford, brimming with incandescent rare photos. Today he's feverishly restoring *Napoleon* again — perhaps the first restoration of a restoration. And his interests are not limited to the early years. His recent biography of David Lean is exhaustive and definitive. *It Happened Here* belongs to another time in his life, but his unfulfilled promise as a feature film director was hardly wasted.

There are many reasons to see *It Happened Here*, a work of singular power and artistic conviction. The desperate and intense frustration of its making (recalled in Brownlow's witty book *How It Happened Here*) never comes across the screen. Those familiar with Brownlow's passionate work to save movies and their history will be further rewarded. This modest genius has dedicated his talent to good deeds and worthy preservation, but with *It Happened Here* he reveals his moral heart. ▼

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Brutal, physical world of ballet

Talking with the makers of 'Center Stage'

by Tim Nasson

Ballet — you either love it or hate it. Even if you love it, chances are you'd think that a movie about a bunch of bratty, overprivileged kids at American Ballet Theater would be a chore to sit through. You could probably come up with a million other things to do rather than sit through a movie of boys and girls in tights, prancing around a stage to the tunes of Tchaikovsky.

But what if gay director Nicholas Hytner (*The Madness of King George*, *The Crucible*, *The Object of My Affection*), winner of the Best Director Tony for *Carousel*, decided to make a ballet picture? You might expect Hytner's interpretation to be untraditional. And you'd be right. *Center Stage* is currently playing in Bay Area theaters.

In a recent interview, Hytner explained that ballet is "a very tough world. It's not for the faint of heart. In Moscow, only a couple of years ago, instructors were still walking around class whopping bad legs with sticks. Ballet is a brutal career. It involves enormous sacrifice and physical pain."

In addition to the standard Tchaikovsky fare (*Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*), *Center Stage* finds *Swan Lake* turning into Michael Jackson's "The Way You Make Me Feel." Sounds corny? Trust me, it's so not. In fact, it's one of the best scenes in the film. The troupe also dances to Jamiroq and many other disco and alternative contemporary artists.

Producer Larry Mark explained that "there are so many different kinds of dancing, from the kind that's very strict and goes by the rules, to the kind that you



American Ballet Theatre star Ethan Stiefel (center) and Amanda Schull (second from left) in *Center Stage*

just feel with your heart. Some people like living by the rules; other people just want to go crazy. It all shows in how they dance. Dance expresses personality."

While *Center Stage* is very erotic, there is no nudity. "It just wouldn't have fit into this picture," Mark said. "Maybe in my next picture, I'll write a memo to myself: 'More nudity.'" Unfortunately, his next film stars Sean Connery.

Center Stage does not boast an A List cast, but it has an A+ List of characters working behind the scenes to ensure that it wows every audience that it pulls in. The editor is Tariq Anwar, this year's Academy Award winner (*American Beauty*) in that category. Ruth Mark, Academy Award nominee for Costume Design (*Emma*), created the titillating tutus. David Gropman, nominated for Best Cinematographer (*The Cider House Rules*), brings the dancers to life on screen.

Body heat

The absolute best thing about *Center Stage* is the film's star, Ethan Stiefel. One look at the stunning, blonde, blue-eyed 27-year-old, and your body begins to

tingle. Stiefel makes his motion picture debut with *Center Stage*. He is nearing the end of a remarkable career in ballet.

"It's a bizarre story, really," Stiefel said. "I always wanted to be a Green Bay Packer. When I was eight, my family moved to Wisconsin and I was intent on playing football. My little sister was intent on taking ballet, and my mom saw fit to enroll her in the local ballet school. But in Wisconsin, local means an hour drive, each way. I was always an energetic kid, and my mom did not want to leave me home alone, for fear that I would tear the house up. So I got dragged back and forth to the ballet lessons every week. I got bored sitting and watching for two hours, so I decided that if I was not going to beat 'em, I'd join 'em. I had no aspirations to become a ballet star or anything like that. I was just bored and wanted to release all of the energy I had bottled up inside. I think I was the only boy in Wisconsin who was taking ballet lessons at the time."

What did the boys at school think of him and his new hobby? "The only time there was any discussion about it was whenever there was an argument on the playground. They would start in with the obligatory name-calling."

Things changed fast for Stiefel. When he turned 12, his father packed the family up and moved

to Pennsylvania. "I kept up with my ballet lessons. By then it was routine. But I never let any of the kids at the new school know what my favorite extracurricular activity was. At that age, kids weren't too accepting of anyone or anything that was different. In hindsight, I wish I had not kept quiet about it. No one should have to keep anything they love a secret."

At 14, Stiefel moved yet again, this time to NYC, the ballet capital of the nation. "When I got to New York, I decided to try wrestling and almost gave up ballet. But I decided to stick with it."

By the time Stiefel was 16 and in high school at The Professional Children's School, he was offered a place in the New York City Ballet.

While working on the film, Stiefel had to change his technique. "In ballet, you're doing a live performance, projecting to 3,000 people and working to a moment, a climax. On camera, the biggest adjustment for me was not to demonstrate things but just let them happen." Stiefel, whose other passion is motorcycles, uses one in *Center Stage* in a way you've never seen one used before.

Stiefel is thinking about an end to his career as a professional dancer, and is weighing his options in teaching ballet and, perhaps, more acting. As a dancer, though, Stiefel says, "I want to go out soaring, not limping." ▼

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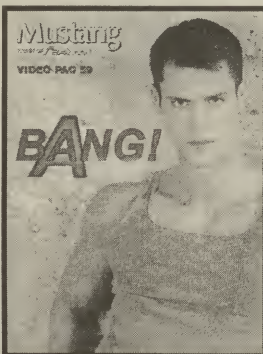
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Director Nicholas Hytner discusses a scene with young stars Amanda Schull and Sascha Radetsky during the filming of *Center Stage*.

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MUSIC

Songs in the key of gay

by Stephanie von Buchau

The Music of Paul Bowles — EOS Orchestra; Jonathan Sheffer, cond. (RCA Victor)

Rorem: Evidence of Things Not Seen — New York Festival of Song (New World Records)

Songs of Ned Rorem — Susan Graham, mezzo soprano; Malcolm Martineau, piano (Erato)

Schubert, who was queer as Dick's hatband and the finest song composer who ever lived, didn't set "gay" poets to music, though some of the writers he employed were homosexual. It just wasn't done in those days. In today's more open climate, a gay composer thinks nothing of setting same-sex texts, even bitterly direct poems about AIDS — something Schubert didn't have to confront, though he died of syphilis. As far as I know, there are no Schubert songs about STDs.

The bottom line, of course, is not with whom does the composer sleep, but does his (or her) music, when amplifying an explicit or even metaphorical text, increase the power of the poem? Does the music add something to the words, or do you get that sinking feeling that the poem would be as strong (or stronger) if it had been left alone? I get that feeling a lot with the songs of Ned Rorem, considered by received opinion to be America's best living songwriter. The openly gay Rorem brags about choosing only great literature, much of it by gay writers. One can't help wondering what Stephen Sondheim, who is also gay but writes his own lyrics, thinks about the received opinion. Rorem has written over 500 songs, and I'd give them all for Sondheim's "Not a Day Goes By."

Of the gay writers Rorem sets to music in *Evidence of Things Not Seen*, his 1998 full-evening song cycle for solo voices and piano,



Ned Rorem

pieces by Whitman, Auden, Housman (particularly "Is My Team Ploughing?") and Baudelaire often have busy, repetitive piano parts and a vocal line that is too strenuous for the poem itself. The two AIDS pieces in this collection — which starts with birth and innocence, moves to experience and ends in death — by Mark Doty and Paul Monette read more beautifully and movingly than they sing. The pain, fear and anger experienced directly by the writer is flattened and bleached by the voice and piano setting, in the same manner that Holocaust "art" (especially movies) often strikes me as self-conscious, even phony, though the creative impulse may be pure and compassionate.

Possibly this means that while Rorem, himself an impressive memoirist, recognizes and honors fine writing, he can't always live up to its implications. His melodies tend toward the Brittenesque, dry and refusing to make any obvious emotional leap, as if good taste and reticence were artistic virtues. (They are important in social intercourse; they are death to art.) It is often said that Rorem, whose hero was Francis Poulenc, writes "French" songs. Ah yes, but French songs are in French, a language in which it is possible to suggest great depth without actually stating it. This is

not possible in English, the least elliptical of tongues, which is another reason why Sondheim scores with his own lyrics — they are brilliant, witty and direct, but they do not, could not stand by themselves.

Evidence of Things Not Seen is handsomely performed by pianists Steven Blier and Michael Barrett. The singers are soprano Monique McDonald, mezzo Delores Ziegler, tenor Rufus Muller (my favorite of the quartet) and baritone Kurt Ollmann. All have healthy young voices, but not quite enough of the international sheen that informs Susan Graham's art. This mezzo, who will sing Octavian and the lead in *Dead Man Walking* for San Francisco Opera this fall, almost makes me like Rorem's work. She sang some of the 32 songs on her new disc at a recent Cal Performances recital; the best of them — "The Lordy Hudson," for instance — benefit greatly from her glamorous musicality.

No dilettante

Paul Bowles, better known as the Tangiers-based author of *The Sheltering Sky*, was also a compos-

er and not the amateur dilettante you might think. Supported by Virgil Thomson and Aaron Copland, Bowles wrote theater music for Orson Welles, John Houseman, William Saroyan and Tennessee Williams. After he fled to Morocco in 1947 with his writer-wife Jane Bowles, he ceased composing, and his music was basically forgotten for 50 years until it was resuscitated and arranged for a 1995 concert by Jonathan Sheffer, a film composer, conductor and Classical Action AIDS activist.

This well-packed disc, originally released a few years ago, offers "The Wind Remains," a one-act zarzuela, exploiting Bowles' fascination with Latin rhythms, though the "story" is as surreal as a Magritte painting. At its 1943 premiere, "The Wind Remains" was choreographed by Merce Cunningham and conducted by Leonard Bernstein. Also included are the 1932 Suite for Small Orchestra; a suite from *Pastorela*, a 1946 ballet commissioned by Lincoln Kirstein for American Ballet Caravan; the seriously entertaining Concerto for Two Pianos (Alan Feinberg and Leslie Stifel-



Paul Bowles

man, soloists); and six wispy songs orchestrated by Sheffer (sung by Ollmann) to texts by Bowles, his wife and Gertrude Stein.

Though both Rorem and Bowles are gay, there is a generational gap in their approach to texts, even though they are only 13 years apart in birth — Bowles was born in 1910, Rorem in 1923. The odd thing is that, despite Rorem's provocative choice of plain-spoken poems, if you didn't know either's orientation, you might suspect, just from the sheer, insouciant élan of his music, that Bowles was "the gay one." So much for stereotyping, musical or otherwise. ▼

British invasion 2000

by Gregg Shapiro

It's been a while since the United Kingdom presented a threat, on the pop charts, to the United States, but that doesn't mean they haven't been trying. The following discs, all recent releases, are currently being worked by tours, new videos, etc. Here's the scorecard on the challengers:

Bush: *The Science Of Things* (Trauma): It feels kind of strange to me that the first record by Bush that I have the chance to review turns out to be their least commercially successful. It's hard to

say what precipitated the Bush backlash. After all, their sound would fit in perfectly well on most of the "alternative" music stations that have started playing harder music, everything from Korn to Metallica. Maybe it's because the songs on *The Science of Things* sound uninspired and tedious. C

Catherine Wheel: *Wishville* (Columbia): On their fifth album and the first on their new label, Catherine Wheel crank out nine melodic, metallic tracks that are a little more compelling than those on the Bush disc, but lack the necessary flash to momentarily blind the short-attention-spanned

overextended listener and get his already taxed attention. "Gasoline" might do the trick, but listeners might wander after that. C

The Cure: *Bloodflowers* (Fiction/Elektra): On this, the first studio disc since they released their second "hits" collection, *Galore*, three years ago, The Cure keep it dark and moody, just the way their fans like it. *Bloodflowers* probably won't win Robert Smith and company any new fans, but listener-friendly tracks such as the first single, "Maybe Someday," and "The Loudest Sound" are certainly catchy. "Watching Me Fall" and

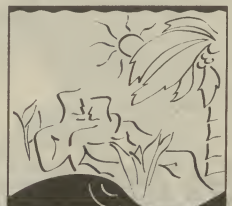
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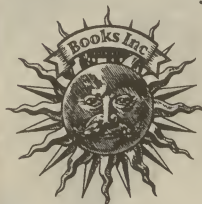
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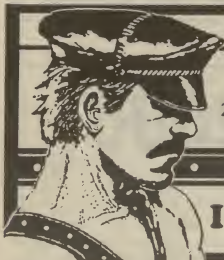
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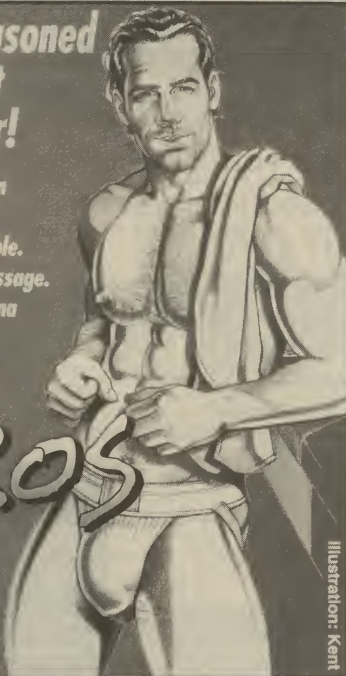


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Adolescent angst

by Deborah Peifer

If someone offered me a fortune, and said all I had to do for the money was to be 15 again, I'm pretty sure my answer would be a resounding *no*. In her first published novel, Jane Summer revisits those painful, mortifying and horrific days with ironic wit and tremendous sympathy. *The Silk Road* (Alyson, \$12.95) is poignant and petty, humiliating and harsh, sprinkled with occasional moments of stunning loveliness. It is, in fact, as true a picture of the mid-teens as I have read in a long time. Set in the '70s, this novel reminds us of just how awful it is to be young in any decade.

Paige Bergman is the hero of *The Silk Road*, and she is a great character, a teenager too smart for her own good, too passionate for her parent's approval, too vital ever to forget. Her dad gives new meaning to the term distant father, owing to an unfortunate accident involving way too much electricity. He's affectionate to Paige, and even stands up for her, when he can remember who she is, and who he is.

Paige's mother, on the other hand, is the mother we all thought we had (and some of us actually did!) in high school. Eva goes out of her way to criticize, to belittle, to dismiss and ignore her daughter, who has the unmitigated temerity to be her own person. Paige answers the insults with silence, a fact that really frosts her mother. Paige observes that "while everyone's mother became more and more of an embarrassment, my mother became repellent." As for Paige's peers, they "take Paige for a Joni Mitchell type, delicate like a soprano, meticulous the way thin-haired women can be." As Paige's own fantasies revolve around Janis Joplin, this merely proves "how little friends know



what goes on in friends' minds."

Into Paige's world of clueless parents and equally clueless friends comes Fiona. Paige meets her when she babysits for Fiona's son and falls instantly, hopelessly, entirely in love. Surely, she thinks, "there must be an emergency room protocol for treating longing." Paige loves completely, as only someone so young can.

"Adults have forgotten the feel of a teenager's love. For you a teenager will walk through glass doors, stay awake three days in a row, be an angel standing under your window in the rain. So what that we don't know how to order from the butcher or apply foundation or insert a diaphragm. Show us." Will Fiona, twice Paige's age, learn to love her as well? What about the impossible family's reaction? Hell, what about the reaction of Fiona's husband? You'll have to read the novel to find out.

Summer captures the indignity of adolescence with an amazing sense of the details of that age. At times I thought I was reading about my own stormy teen years (ah, Sister Hope Marie, my first great love), so realistically does Summer recreate the pain of those impossible days. *The Silk Road* is a

funny, heart-rending, lovely novel, one that will take you back to a time you are probably still astonished you survived. Don't miss it.

Literary events

Lea DeLaria reads at A Different Light on May 27 at 7:30 p.m. from *Lea's Book of Rules for the World*, a collection of essays on life as a butch so butch her gynecologist mistakes her for a man.

Also at ADL, Nancy Abrams reads from *The Other Mother: A Lesbian's Fight for Her Daughter* on June 7 at 7:30 p.m.

The Main Library devotes its large screen video program for June to *Making a Case for History: The Movies*. Curated by the GLBT Historical Society, the films document the important contributions of various members of the queer communities. Films are shown at noon every Thursday in June, and include *Out of the Past: the Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Rights in America* (June 1) and *Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence and Educate Your Attitude* (June 15).

A great loss

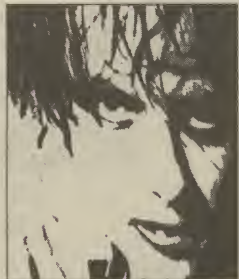
I would say that this is like a death in the family, except that it's so much worse. Firebrand Books, the press that brought us Alison Bechdel's *Dykes to Watch Out For*, Shay Youngblood's *The Big Mama Stories*, Lesléa Newman's *A Letter to Harvey Milk and Good Enough to Eat*, Jess Wells' *The Price of Passion*, Caro Clarke's *The Wolf Ticket*, among many others, will, as of January 1, 2001, be no more. The back list will still be available, but we can no longer anticipate, with excited and eager expectation, new books from this always noteworthy press. To publisher Nancy Bereano, I can only say thank you and good luck. For all of us who love to read and read to live, Firebrand's demise leaves an aching void. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to peiferd@aol.com, or via snail mail to the B.A.R.

British invasion

◀ previous page

the title track, at over 11 minutes and over 7 minutes respectively, might seem a bit daunting, even to the devoted. C



Robert Smith of The Cure

Joe Strummer and the Mescaleros: *Rock Art and the X-Ray Style* (Epitaph): How cool is indie punk label Epitaph? Not only do they have Tom Waits on their roster, but they also have Joe Strummer, formerly of The Clash. On one of last year's most underrated discs, Joe Strummer reminds us what made The Clash so special. With his tough-guy posturing, gruff vocals, and ear for various musical styles, Strummer

has released a disc as varied and focused as the best Clash disc. Smart lyrics and sassy beats (dance, reggae, Latin) give these 10 songs their fire and force. Standouts include "Sandpaper Blues," "The Road To Rock 'N' Roll," "Tony Adams," "Techno D-Day" and "Willesden To Cricklewood." B+

Playing crickets

Muse: *Showbiz* (Maverick/Taste): Sounding a little like a British Jeff Buckley meets Shudder To Think (especially Matthew Bellamy's vocals over his blazing guitar), this youthful trio, which incorporates piano, Hammond and Wuritzer organs, Melotron, radio noise, alien sounds, and crickets into their sound, have the potential to make the kind of memorable impression that Radiohead made almost ten years ago, particularly with tracks such as "Sunburn," "Muscle Museum," "Fillip," "Falling Down," "Unintended," "Sober" and "Overdue." B+

Oasis: *Standing On The Shoulder Of Giants* (Epic): Beginning with the instrumental "Fucking In The Bushes," in which spoken word samples (such as "The kids are running around naked, fucking in the bushes") play over a '70s retro-sounding electric guitar, the latest album by the Gallagher Brothers and company might seem to be

breaking new ground. But by the second song (and first single) "Go Let It Out," you realize it's more of the same, which probably won't be too much of a disappointment for Oasis fans who have had to wait a couple of years for this album of all-new material. "Who Feels Love?," Liam Gallagher's "Little James" and "Sunday Morning Call" are fairly interesting, but this album lacks the energy or innovation necessary for Oasis to recapture their earlier glory. C

Tam!: *Hello My Friends Do You Read Me?* (Roadrunner): Like Muse, Tam! is a youthful trio. Unlike Muse, however, the Scottish threesome known as Tam! mix a bit of funk and hip-hop into their wicked brand of rock cocktail. You can hear evidence of that on standout tracks like "Swallow Me Whole," "Punctured Brain," "Machines," "Sting" and "Ultramontane." B-

The The: *Nakedself* (Nothing): Matt Johnson (aka The The) is a name that belongs in the history books when the history of New Wave music is written. His 1983 *Soul Mining* album, which contains the second (shorter) version of the song "Uncertain Smile," is without a doubt one of the most essential releases of that time. On his first release for Trent (*Nine Inch Nails*) Reznor's record label,

next page ►

ART

Bruce Conner

◀ Arts cover

'50s. It was a medium that would occupy him until 1964, when he grew tired of "gluing things down" and moved on to more two-dimensional media, including photography and ink drawings.

Outside the box

In the meantime, Conner became one of the most important figures in postwar independent filmmaking. His seminal work, *A Movie* (1958), exploded the traditional narrative structure of films, with its patchwork of footage from newsreels, educational movies, and B-grade pulp features. It is on view continuously at the de Young. Conner went on to explore and expand the medium throughout the '60s, and several of his films are on view here. He worked with the staff at the Fine Arts Museums to "avoid the box" of the film-viewing experience, and there are some rare opportunities indeed, such as the chance to hand-crank a 16mm print of *Searching for Mushrooms* (1959-67), and to examine it frame-by-frame on a light-box.

Of his large output in photography, only a roomful of photograms is included in this installation. In the '70s, Conner created a series of life-size *Angels* by silhouetting his own body on light-sensitive paper. Crouching,

stretching, or reaching out toward the viewer, the ghostly images are indicative of the usually subversive artist's more spiritual theme: the interplay of light and dark, of Good and Evil. The more abstract photograms are especially haunting in their minimalism.

His dark pen-and-ink drawings of the '70s and '80s continue that theme, wherein almost the entire paper support is covered with densely applied lines of ink. His *Inkblot* drawing series of the '90s, of repeated, symmetrical, Rorschach-like images, also points to the extreme meticulousness of his style.

More subversive, in a Dada/Duchampian way, is a lithograph of the artist's thumbprint (1965) which not only winks at the notion of originality in a medium which is built on the concept of reproduction, but also challenges the convention of keeping one's hands clean during the printmaking process. It is signed with an actual Conner thumbprint.

But it is the early assemblages that beckon most strongly and draw the viewer into their erotic world of pin-up girls, partially revealed and tantalizingly concealed behind their shrouds of torn nylon stockings. As with the experience of peering into an Ed Kienholz installation, one feels the need to wash afterwards with soap and hot water. Human figures with suggestions of animal faces, or with caved-in features, peer from within the deep recesses of



"Bombhead" (1989) by Bruce Conner

these basement-like chambers.

Conner's work formed a core of the 1996 de Young/Whitney exhibition *Beat Culture and the New America*. A surreal element pervades much of his output, certainly the engravings of *The Dennis*

Hopper One Man Show (1973), whose figures feature similarly mutilated extremities. In this element, *2000 BC* serves as a fine complement to *Magritte* across town at SFMOMA.

The films, too, are compelling

and present a rare opportunity to view them. A black-and-white *Breakaway* (1966) uses the simple device of playing itself and its pop music soundtrack first forward, then backward, during a spastic on-again-off-again-with-her-clothes-striptease. It presages MTV in its forward-looking aesthetic and technique. The de Young has also set up in a separate gallery the *Bruce Conner Cinematheque*, which screens daily during the course of the exhibition.

The lack of a consistent style is symptomatic of Conner's attitude toward his art. The concept of a "signature style," observed the artist, is to immediately distinguish an O'Keeffe from a Lichtenstein, and "only represents the signature at the bottom of the check." With a smiling director and curator looking on and nodding during the press preview, Conner assumed what he called his "confrontational stance." Pleading perennial poverty on behalf of all artists everywhere, he gave the lie to the concept of the "honor of 15 minutes of fame, followed by 15 minutes of wealth," or, alternatively, the notion that it is the famous artist's role to "help the benevolent nonprofit institution." Summing up the shared curatorial experience at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, the wise-ass Conner quipped that after this one, "the de Young won't have another one-man show. They'll tear the building down first." ▼

Ed Wood on DVD

◀ Arts cover

(1954). This minor noir about a criminal who tries to escape his fate through plastic surgery is chiefly notable for its homo interest — the recently late Steve Reeves, as a cop who parades around with no shirt on to show his already inflated musculature. Reeves is practically catatonically here, staring intently at something the audience can't see and, in classic Wood style, seeming to have little to do, physically or in any regard, with the other actors. Foolish dialogue ("Love. I don't think you know what love means.") and the Wood stock company of talent-challenged actors add to the high and low jinx.

Octopus's garden

Next up is *Bride of the Monster* (1956), with Lugosi bringing his familiar Eastern European gravitas to the role of a Nazi-like scientist who occupies "the old Willow house" at the edge of a swamp. There he conducts experiments to create a race of "super-beings" who will help him take over the world.

One of the film's treasures is the monster, a big rubber octopus that's surely one of cinema history's most lethargic menaces. It lies limp in a puddle of water outside Lugosi's lab, waiting for victims to jump on it and wrap themselves in its arms, which don't seem to move without some help from said

victims. This creature was memorialized in Tim Burton's film *Ed Wood*, and it's quite endearing to watch the clumsy manipulations required to make it do its evil duty.

Lugosi is at his most soulfully dramatic here. He has a beautifully dramatic speech about his outsider status that resonates beyond the film's dime-store sets: "I have no home... hunted, despised, living like an animal. The jungle is my home!" Wood perennial Tor Johnson, the bald Swedish wrestler, gets a juicy role as an Igor-like assistant.

Two years later came Wood's crown jewel, and the film by which he's best known: *Plan 9 from Outer Space* (1958). The "ninth plan" of the title is "resurrection of recent dead," according to drag-queen-from-space Bunny Breckenridge, who needed no more than his usual makeup to play the head alien. Most of the scenes occur in a pitifully fake graveyard, with inept cops being chased by easily eluded reanimated corpses. The arrival of the aliens is heralded by hubcaps with wires being yanked in front of a painted backdrop, with a loud voice booming: "Flying saucers over Hollywood!" Critic Danny Peary called this film subversive, and it's true that Wood's script attacks backward thinking: "Stupid, stupid!" alien Dudley Manlove shrieks about parochial earthlings who are "playing God."

Nothing here is what we expect, or what narrative demands.

The graveyards have plastic headstones, paper mausoleums, and sticks for crosses. A simple sequence of driving from a police station to the cemetery becomes an existential nightmare as the sky shifts willy-nilly between day, dusk, and darkest night over the course of the drive. Two old gravediggers are "attacked" by the "ghoul woman" played by Vampira; but typical of Wood, there's no visible connection between the two. The gravediggers are standing in daylight; the ghoulish woman (allegedly a few feet away) is in a pitch-black cemetery. She holds her hands up and shakes her fingers suggestively, which is apparently enough to send the gravedig-

gers screaming to their doom.

Wood's stock company is at its peak here: the inimitable Criswell ("Future events such as these will affect you in the future."); Vampira; Bunny (John) Breckenridge, who rolls his mascara'd eyes and reads his lines from the floor; and the great Dudley Manlove, who gets many of the film's best lines, some of which have a low-rent Shakespeare tinge: "I, a fiend? I, a fiend?" or the immortal "You see? You see? Your stupid minds! Stupid! Stupid!" Bela Lugosi is more a spiritual presence than a physical one — no doubt because he died before the film was shot. We do get a little footage of him picking flowers outside his tract house, and meander-

ing through a graveyard. Wood's substitution of his chiropractor Tom Mason for the dead star is rightly a part of cinema's great lore.

The *Plan 9* disc includes a wonderful two-hour documentary by Mark Carducci that explores the film's production, its players, and Wood's career, with loads of interviews, commentary, and even a rare clip of Wood directing one of his early Westerns.

Wood died in 1978, destitute after he and his wife were evicted from their last apartment in the dregs of Hollywood. Now he's back, 22 years later — radiant in sausage curls, electric angora, and stiletto heels — ready for the world's embrace. ▼

British invasion

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Johnson still sounds pissed off ("Boiling Point," "The Whisperers," "Swine Fever," "Voidy Numbness"), and that's not necessarily a bad thing. But the chorus of "Global Eyes" is too reminiscent of a song by Inxs. Still, Johnson hasn't lost the ability to put anger in a setting that doesn't overwhelm it. His new boss could learn a thing or two from him. B

UnAmerican: *UnAmerican* (Universal): Is it possible that Steve McEwan (formerly of World

Party) is now in a band so unoriginal that they couldn't even come up with a title for their debut album? I found it hard to believe, too, but it's true. Need proof, just listen to the insipid opening track (and first single) "She's A Bomb." What follows isn't much better. "Tonight's The First Night" actually has the line, "Tonight's the first night of the rest of your life" in its chorus. This record sounds as if it was made 10 years ago (when it wouldn't have been any more valid) and shelved. I can't remember the last time I was this disappointed in a band or an album. D- ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Fri 26

Dance Mission Theater

"Community Performance ExtraVaganza," directed by Sara Shelton Mann in collaboration with Kathleen Hermesdorf, Bruce "Muf" Ghent, Austin Forbord, Norman Rutherford, Closer to Carbon with Peter Whitehead and Andrew Kushin, Abbey Crain, Rachel Kaplan, and Lauren Elder. Featuring Dance Brigade, Emeryville Taiko, Elaine Buckholtz, Debbie Taylor, Shannon McCord, Monique Jenkinson, Shelley Trot, Olive Bennga, Gabriel Todd, Otto Ramstad, Jared Kaplan, Wanda Kraikit, Shana Stern, Samantha Black, Rosemary Hannon, and Melissa Runnels. A site-specific work. \$15 adv.; \$17 door. 3316 24th St. 826-4401.

Herbst Theatre

Maestra Apo Hsu conducts The Women's Philharmonic in "Odyssey, Zoom & Transmigration," a program incorporating elements as diverse as a Chinese pipa concerto written by an American composer, an American soprano performing work by a Japanese composer, and a string quartet performing music with traces of tango, ragtime, modern dissonance, and Stravinsky. Featuring the world premiere of composer Mary Jeanne Van Appledorn's *Meliora*. 7pm pre-concert talk with Maestra Hsu and guests; 8pm program. 400 Van Ness Ave. 885-3693. www.womensphil.org

Luna Sea

Subdermal Theater presents David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, a classic take on guys, greed, and the dark side of the American Dream. Directed by Stephen Drewes. \$15. 8pm (2pm Sun.). Thru June 11. 2940 16th St. 722-4807.



An image from Corey Arnold's *No Animals Harmed* at Impact! Gallery. See Saturday.

Jon Sims Center

AI/Rspace artist-in-residence Susan Maxwell, working with Victoria McNichol Kelley, is creating "A Gravity Fable," a bittersweet and otherworldly dance theater tale set in a kingdom where the birds are dying of a mysterious epidemic. This work-in-progress weaves tightly around two women, one who searches for a way to rescue the birds, the other who searches for a way to escape the fact of their dying. Discussion with artist follows. Maxwell has danced with Pearl Uibun and Musicians, Erica Essner, Kate Foley, Steamroller, Kim Epifano and Jo Kreiter. She doubles as a writer. \$5-\$10 sliding. 8:30pm. 1519

Mission St. Surf: www.jonsimsctr.org.

Shelton Theatre

Inquiline Theatre Company presents Nicky Silver's "Raised in Captivity," directed by Colman Domingo. \$20 (\$15 Sun.). 8pm. Thru May 28. 533 Sutter St. (at Powell). 289-2260.

Paramount's Great America

Gus presents "Gay and Lesbian Night" in carnival land. Rides open till midnight; dancing till 3am. Live on stage: Sonique. DJ Julian Marsh sets the tone. \$40 adv.; \$50 gate. Tix at Undercover, All American Boy, Body, and World Gym.

Under One Roof

Memorial Day Weekend Sidewalk Sale of decorative home accessories, giftware, stationery, garden items and more. Discounts up to 75% off. All profits benefit Bay Area AIDS service organizations. 10am-8pm. Thru May 29. 549 Castro St. (near 19th St.). Surf: www.underoneroof.org

Lumiere Theatre

Seventh Art Releasing presents Jon Reiss' *Better Living Through Circuitry*, a documentary plunging into the rave culture and underground dance scene. Pulsing electronica and frenzied footage. DJs, musicians, and ravers talk about the music, their ideals, and the flowering of a new spirituality ("Peace, Love, Unity & Respect") embracing transcendence through sound and rhythm. Filmed entirely with a tiny Sony VX1000 digital video camera. Daily Thru June 1 at 5:20, 7:30 & 9:45pm (Fri-Mon matinees 12:50 & 2:55pm). California at Polk. 352-0810.

New College Cultural Center

An evening with poets Kit Robinson (*Cloud Eight*, *Democracy Boulevard*,

Balance Sheet) and Lisa Samuels (*LETTERS*, *The Seven Voices*). Presented by Small Press Traffic. 7:30pm. \$5. 766 Valencia St.

Sat 27

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoor lovers for a Purisma Creek redwoods hike and enjoy the redwood trees, creeks, and occasional views of the ocean. It's a moderate 9-mile hike with a 1,300-ft. elevation gain. Meet 9am under the large Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. Club info: 487-6410. Surf: www.sfhiking.com.

Zeum

"Dis-Scenting Opinion," Emily Bender's lighthearted yet substantive spray of humor, drama, and fresh ideas on queer life, ecology and community. A collaboration with Imani Sistahday, Terry Mullings and Kim Compos, with choreographer Dominique Zeltzman. The show is for you "if you are concerned about the environment but can't see how it connects to queer culture." Wheelchair accessible. Please wear no perfume, cologne, essential oils, aftershave, hairspray or other scented products. \$5. 8pm. Zeum Theater, 4th and Howard. Environmental illness/disability access call 550-1902. Also on June 2 & 3 at Eighth Street Studio, 2525 Eighth St., Bay #1, at Dwight in Berkeley.

MACT Citihiike

Men of All Colors Together take their monthly urban hike. Destination: Pacific Heights. For the fit and fit-aspiring. Rain, fog, or shine. Free. Assembly 10:30am; depart 11am promptly. Meet at Starbucks at Church & Market 675-0201

A Different Light

Stand-up comic and Broadway performer Lea DeLaria reads from *Lea's Book of Rules for the World*, her collections of essays on life as a butch so butch her gynecologist mistakes her for a man. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Randall Museum Theatre

Young People's Teen Musical Theater Company presents Stephen Sondheim's "Company," an honest, witty, sophisticated look at modern relationships. \$4-\$7 sliding. 8pm (3pm & 8pm Sun., 5/28). 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above the Castro). 554-9523.

Noe Valley Ministry

Ralph William Boone, fresh from his success at the Plush Room, is featured in "El Taraval Concert," an evening of solo song and stage performance exploring the theme of transformation. With Noe Valley Chamber Music Series Artistic Director Karen Heather accompanying on piano. \$20 (\$15 students/seniors). 8pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 642-7467.

Cowell Theater

"SF World Music Festival." Music from Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, China, India, Tuva, and Vietnam, performed by local and international groups. Today: KPFA radio host Catherine Gollery moderates a roundtable discussion on the state of world music in the music business (noon; free); a film screening of select world-music performances, compiled by Stephen Parr (2:30pm; free); Edessa & Chookasian Armenian Ensemble perform traditional Greek music on rarely heard instruments (6pm; \$22); Jumping Buddha Ensemble & Hossein Omoumi perform a combination of traditional Chinese music with various Asian folk tunes, jazz, and other modern sounds (8:30pm; \$22). Fort Mason Center. Info: Clarion Music Center, 391-1317. Tix: Fort Mason Ticket Service, 441-FM-TS. Surf: www.sfworldmusicfestival.org.

Yerba Buena Center

SFJazz Spring Season 2000 continues with "The Drums," presenting legendary drummer Elvin Jones and his Jazz Machine. Plus one of jazz's best young drummers, Brian Blade, and his Brian Blade Fellowship. 7pm & 9:30pm (With "History of Jazz Drums on Film, hosted by Elvin Jones, at the Forum at 8pm). Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater. Tix at BASS (776-1999) or online at www.sfjazz.org.

M.H. de Young Memorial Museum

Opening: "Leonard Baskin: Monumental Prints," works depicting the human figure in full size, created by Baskin from a single block of wood. His work influenced Pop Art printmaking and such artists as Andy Warhol, Robert Rauschenberg, and Helen Frankenthaler. \$7 gen'l.; \$5 seniors; \$4 youths. 9:30am-5pm. Golden Gate Park (off JFK Drive). 863-3330.

ATA Gallery

Other Cinema presents "Avant to Live," an evening of new experimental works on film and video. \$5. 8pm. 992 Valencia St. 824-3890.

Cell Space

CD release extravaganza: Join the Venusians in celebration of their CD

Calendare by Mark Mardon

Queer artists unite

All you busy earners and spenders out there take note: if ever there were a time for you to gather the fruit of your generous donations to the arts (just a gentle reminder), June is the season. It marks the start of the **National Queer Arts Festival (NQAF)**, a dazzling month-long array of musical, theatrical, literary, visual-art and dance events produced by the **Queer Cultural Center (QCC)** and **Harvey Milk Institute (HMI)**. The NQAF is to queer arts in general what the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival is to filmcraft. It showcases a host of up-and-coming and well-established local and national talents who are not to be missed. It also serves as an umbrella organization, promoting related arts programs, including **Queer Latina/o Festival 2000** and **The San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Dance Festival**.

Any attempt here to describe all the events coming up would be foolish, since so much will be happening. So let me just give you a few of my picks for openers, then let you mull through the official multi-page calendar/program on your own time.

First off, this Thursday, June 1, **Joe Goode Performance Group** will take the stage at Yerba Buena Center for the opening night of "Undertaking Harry—Part II," a new work that takes inspiration from gay civil-rights leader Harry Hay, playing in tandem with last year's acclaimed "Gender Heroes—Part I."

Not for the world would I miss "Odyssey and Underworld," an exhibition of the art of **Jerome Caja**, **Charles Sexton** and **Thomas Plageman** opening Sunday, June 4 at SomArts. Caja's name in particular carries special clout in the queer arts community, with his demented-genius aura rapidly approaching Warholian proportions.

The "In the Street" Theater Festival taking place in Duboce Park on Friday, June 2 should be a blast. It is being produced by the 509 Cultural Center/Luggage Store and co-presented by the QCC, and features, among other performers, Steamroller, the Robert Henry Johnson Dance Company, and Sister Spit. This component of the festival moves to the Tenderloin for the remainder of the weekend. ▼

Watch the "Out & About" section for listings of events as they approach. Meanwhile, free NQAF program schedules, including times and ticket prices, are available at bookstores and other retailers in the Castro and Polk Gulch areas. Online information is available at www.queerculturalcenter.org. Phone 552-7709.



The cast of Emily Bender's "Dis-Scenting Opinion" link ecology and queer community at Zeum. See Saturday.



Ravers and DJs tell their stories in Jon Reiss' *Better Living Through Circuitry* at the Lumiere. See Friday.

"Hot Planet." The deep space maestros perform dance pop from the cosmic groove headquarters of Venus. Plus the electrifying transmogrified didgeridu sounds of world-music star Stephen Kent. With juicy dancers, future-mystic trance performances, dazzling DJs, stilt dancers, aerialists, fire dancers, etc. \$13 w/cosmic wear; \$15 w/o. 8pm. 2050 Bryant St. (btwn. 18th & 19th). 648-7562.

Impact! Tattoo & Gallery

Opening reception: "No Animals Harmed" and "ri frak' shen, n." two series of works in photography by Corey Arnold. With DJ Adrian spinning drum 'n' bass. 6-10pm. 575 Haight St. (at Fillmore). 934-8932.

King Street Garage

Futura presents "Noche de Salsa," featuring the live salsa band Azabache performing 8-10pm. Reception and free salsa lessons with Jaime Martinez 7-8pm. Dancing till 3am with DJ Clay. Proceeds benefit Mano a Mano HIV Services at Instituto Familiar de la Raza and El Programa Latino at Shanti. \$20. 174 King St. (at 3rd St.). Info: 674-4764; fax: www.tixto-go.com/go/shanti

550 Barneveld

Don your gay warrior apparel as Gus presents "Metropolis: Military Ball," featuring guys in uniform pretending to be butch. Live on stage: Olive. Featuring DJ Roland Belmares. \$35 adv.; \$45 door. 10pm-6am. 646-0890.

Sun 28

Mission District

"Carnaval San Francisco," featuring a colorful parade, two full stages of live entertainment (tropical stage with merengue and salsa; world beat stage with jazz, Caribbean, Brazilian, and reggae), DJ areas, international food and arts/crafts. Security check points at all entrances. Parade starts 10am at 24th St. & Bryant, proceeding down Mission St. to 14th St. & Harrison. Info: 826-1401.

A Different Light

Aaron Lawrence reads from *Suburban Hustler*. He has worked as an escort since May 1995. When not entertaining clients he's pursuing a career as a porn star. He lives with his lover in suburban New Jersey. Free. 3:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

1015 Folsom

"Spundae," nine hours of musical madness provided by 15 DJs. Is it queer? You decide. Featuring Dave Ralph (UK) and Talla 2 XL (Germany), with Marques Wyatt and Jason Bentley of LA. Plus local heroes

Simon, Taj, Gianni, Michael Anthony, Spesh, Dylot and others. Lasers. 9pm-6am. 21 + w/D. 974-9389.

Civic Center

Harmony and Harmonics present "Sunshine," a free outdoor dance party with cutting-edge DJs including John Selway (Ultra Records, NY), Joshua Ryan (Crush Recordings, Pittsburgh), Gianni (Harmonics, Nikita, Spundae), and Greg Sandler. 2pm-7pm. www.livedjs.com

Mon 29

Piaf's

QComedy.com openly presents Gay Comedy Showcase, hosted by Maureen Brownsey, featuring Ken Miller, Maggie Dolan, Melanie Borba, Helen Slayton-Hughes, Mark Saltveit, Nick Leonard, Eric Lindstrom and Paul Olson. \$5. 8pm. 1686 Market St. (at Gough). Info: 541-5610.

Tue 30

SomArts Gallery

"Art for AIDS Auction IV" benefiting the UCSF AIDS Health Project. Painting, jewelry, photography and sculpture from more than 100 artists. 5:30-7pm reception & viewing; 5:30-9pm silent auction; 7-9pm live auction. 934 Brannan St. (at 9th St.). Surf: www.art4aids.org

UCSF

"Transgender Activists Speak Out," featuring Susan Stryker (Exec. Dir. of the Northern Calif. GLBT Historical Society), Stephan Thorne (SF Police officer), and Veronika Cauley (SF Veterans Affairs Commissioner). Discuss issues, culture and history, with special attention to health concerns. Free. Noon-1pm. Room 302, Health Sciences West Bldg., University of California at SF, 513 Parnassus Ave. Info: UCSF LGBT Resources, 502-5593.

Wed 31

A Different Light

Reading & book signing: *Best Bisexual Erotica*, edited by Bill Brent and Carol Queen. Local contributors will join in the reading. Free. 7:30pm. 489 Castro St. 431-0891.

Liquid

"Progress," every Wednesday featuring the coolest DJs, including Josep Lee, Tracer, Jerry Bonham, Greg Sandler and many more. Call for weekly update. \$3 cover. 9pm-2am. 2925 16th St. (at S. Van Ness). 789-8565.

Thu 1

SF Main Public Library

Opening reception: The GLBT Historical Society presents "Making a Case for Community History," an exhibition that explores personal history and its interaction with larger historical forces. Two-Spirits/Native Americans, bisexuals, elders, sex workers, and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are featured in the show. Free. 6-7:30pm. The exhibit runs thru June 23 in the Main Library's 6th-floor Skylight Gallery, and will be displayed in Civic Center Plaza on June 25 for Gay Pride Celebration.

Scott Nichols Gallery

Opening reception: an exhibition of works by photographer Peter Haakon Thompson. His work is set almost entirely in the landscapes of Minnesota and Illinois. The images address the relationship between a man and his environment. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 49 Geary St., 4th floor. 788-4641.

Robert Koch Gallery

Opening reception: *Nueva Visión: Experimental and Modern Photography in Spain, 1930-1936*. Rare prints by Spanish photographers demonstrating major trends in Spanish experimental photography, including a preference for abstract imagery, an exploration of non-traditional photographic processes, and a belief in advertising as an important forum for photographic experimentation. Free. 5:30-7:30pm. 49 Geary St. 421-0122.

Yerba Buena Center

Joe Goode Performance Group presents the world premiere of "Under-taking Harry," with the critically acclaimed "Gender Heroes — Part I." \$20 & \$25. 8pm. Thru June 4. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). 978-ARTS.

Kimo's

New club: "Hex Appeal," a weekly occurrence celebrating all things dark, weird, and extreme. Each installation conducted by hostess/DJ Thee Sorceress spinning an amalgam of dark and danceable weirdness along with live musical ensembles and performances. Featured attraction: The Reverend B. Dangerous Freak Show. \$5. 9pm-2am. 21 + w/D. Kimo's Upstairs Pent-house, 1351 Polk St. (at Pine St.). Info: m Shapiro at 339-8308.

Club VSF

Opening night: "Frickshon," presented by Slick Productions. Featuring DJs Michael Anthony (Nikita), Franky Boissy (Oxygen), Pete Carrion (Colony) and guests spinning vocal and house, with some gospel mixed in. The scene will mix gay and straight. \$8. 9pm-2am. Club VSF (the old Oasis), 278 11th St. (at Folsom). Info: 905-4477.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

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Grilled Pork Chops stuffed with apple-raisin dressing, mashed potatoes & gravy\$11.75

Prime Rib au Jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish\$13.95

Fred Calamari with cocktail sauce\$6.75

Patio Cafe

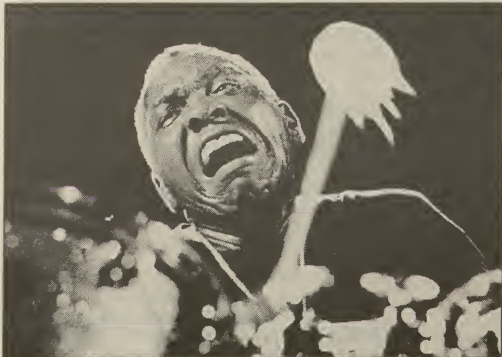
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San Francisco, in general, had been threatening about my reports of spontaneous combustion.

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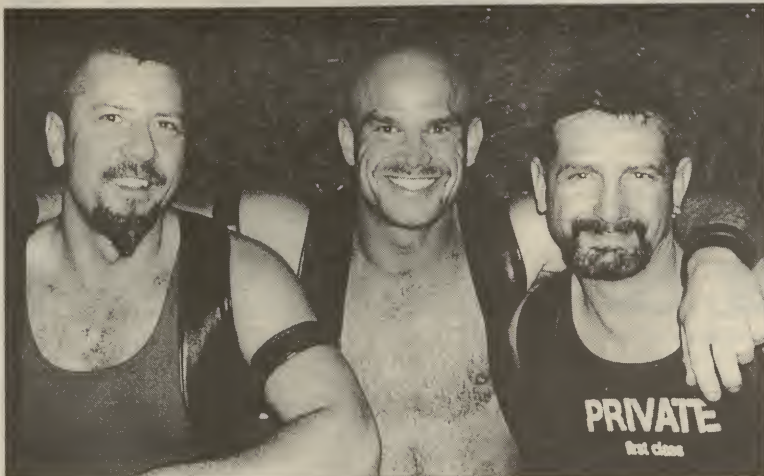
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San Francisco's three entries in the IML 2000 contest in Chicago this coming weekend are, from left: Bob Miller (Mr. Edge Leather); Lance Gear (Mr. San Francisco Leather 2000), and Rob Esmonde (Mr. Daddy's Leather). They will be among 65 contestants competing.

65 men to go for the gold in Chicago

Leather kings stride forth

by Mister Marcus

More than five dozen sturdy men met the May 19 deadline to enter the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago, where the would-be kings of the leather world will soon be competing for leatherdom's crowning title. Even as you read this, fans, judges, contestants and the curious alike are flooding into the Windy City for the high holy days of leather. Men with leather-business titles, bar titles, and city, state, and regional titles all want to grab for the gold ring that will catapult them to the pinnacle of the leather title system as we know it. The kingdom will be theirs to rule.

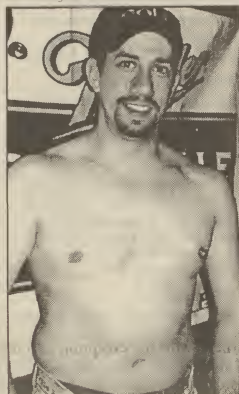


The competition will be tough. Apart from the Americans, competitors include leather men from Canada and Europe, including England and, for the first time ever, Ireland.

But in answer to your many inquiries, no, there will be no contestants from Australia this year.

Send-off parties for IML contestants have been staged all over the country. Here in our own fair city, last Friday night, May 19, Mr. SF Leather Lance Gear, along with Mr. Edge Bob Miller and Mr.

Daddy's Rob Esmonde, hosted a good-luck benefit beer/soda bust at the Powerhouse, an event that included the notorious Shower Show. Various people "bid" on shower scenarios, and the obliging



Ed Morgan, formerly of San Diego and former manager of Daddy's, won the Mr. December 2001 spot on the bare chest calendar. He will compete with 12 other men for the cover spot on Thursday, June 1 at the Powerhouse.

contestants staged quite a splashy production — live showers with no holds barred. For modesty's next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, May 25

Bears of SF distribute funds from IBR 2000 tonight at the Ramada Plaza Hotel's Whitcomb Ballroom, with desserts at 1930, and the presentation at 2000. RSVP by calling 541-5000 or email: info@bosf.org.

In Chicago: Mr. Ebony in Leather 2000 at the world-famous Cell Block Bar at 2100 tonight. All the Int'l. Mr. Leather judges/contestants/dignitaries will be there. Queen Cougar and Frank Nowicki will emcee.

Weekend, May 26-29

Int'l. Mr. Leather 2000 weekend. Hundreds of activities will take place, including the contest on Sunday evening.

Parties galore elsewhere, including Toronto's gigantic Maple Leaf Party, the All-State Deep In The Heart Of Texas shindig, the roasting of IML 1999 Bruce Chopnik, and scads more.

Saturday, May 27

The 15 Association's monthly play party. You know the time, the place and the rules. \$10 donation, BYOB. Other amenities provided.

Pegasus Motorcycle Owner's Club travels to Eureka and Watsonville via Hwy. 299 to Mt. Shasta. Fee is \$140. Call 924-7550 or email to: Pegasus-MOC@rocketmail.com.

Sunday, May 28

Golden Gate Guards MC beer/soda bust, with food, 1500-1800, at the Eagle, for \$8. Plus a

50/50 raffle to benefit Rose Resnick Lighthouse for the Blind.

Sundance Saloon shindig at 174 King Street, 1800-2300, \$8 fee with dance lessons. For more info, call: 699-5764 or click on: <http://sundance.freehosting.net>.

If you must know the results of IML 2000, be at Daddy's for the \$7 beer/soda bust from 1600-2000. Daddy Philip will phone in the results for you. \$2 domestic beer, \$2 well drinks and \$1 Schnapps. Come celebrate the victory of the winner!

Thursday, June 1

Bare Chest Calendar finale! All 13 winners (one month had a tie), will compete for the cover and back cover spots at 2100 tonight at the Powerhouse. Don't miss this one!

Basket Contest at The Edge Bar. All the "usual suspects" plus the ubiquitous "Old Bag" dispensing dish, snideness and mayhem.

Boot Night at the Loading Dock, sponsored by Stompers and Men in Boots Club, Int'l. Around 2100. Love boots? This is the place to be!

Constantines MC beer/soda bust at the Lone Star for only \$6 from 2000 to 2300. One of those no-frills get-togethers we all enjoy.

Sunday, June 4

Welcome Home party for IML delegates at the Edge bar, from 1800-2200, for \$7, including a raffle, auction and dream dates with Lance, Bob and Rob. Bob Miller emcees the event.

Track record

by Jim Provenzano

Trailblazing: The True Story of America's First Openly Gay Track Coach by Eric Anderson; Alyson, \$13.95

Homophobia and athletics go hand in hand, but one that traditionally bears less of that burden is the individual sport of running. Still, as long as backward minds run schools, problems arise on the track as well.

Trailblazing documents the personal and professional struggles of Eric Anderson, track coach, gay man and author of *Training Games*. In the tumultuous early '90s, Anderson came out as California's first openly gay track coach, who eventually led the Huntington Beach cross-country team to nationwide victories — and also *Los Angeles Times* headlines stemming from the events surrounding his coming out and subsequent incidents of insults, problems and attacks against his athletes.

Trailblazing also includes accounts of some of his students and their struggle with public school homophobia in Orange County, where, to some, gay/straight student alliances seem to represent the collapse of Western Civilization.

Anderson spends much time recounting the success of his lanky athletes' rise in the rankings of competition, shaving times and breaking records. He also repeatedly comes out to his students. There are no shocking moments here, with the exception of a few stilted metaphors and corny dialogue endemic of dramatized real-life writing.

After some confessional chapters on his early sexual fumbblings and tear-filled comings-out to various relatives, none of whom are surprised or upset (unknownst to the author, his own mother is to be honored by a local PFLAG chapter), Anderson recounts the casual way he comes out to his athletes, one by one. To



America's first openly gay track coach, Eric Anderson

them, it is, in succession, one non-problem after another.

The conflicts arise, not surprisingly, from the adults, particularly his school principal, Jim Staunton, whom Anderson's lawyer at one point calls a "self-righteous, arrogant son of a bitch," and a dolish vice principal who hands out fake "Queer as a three-dollar bill" money.

Humor helps

Anderson recounts how many coaches on other teams encouraged homophobia, and his team's deflections through humor. This served to bond his athletes, Anderson says, and aided Huntington Beach in gaining a queer reputation, but an outstanding record that grew to attract some superior male and female runners.

Despite such success, their opponents were often told to use a negative hatred as futile inspiration. Writes Anderson, "What's the point of telling athletes they're running like a bunch of fags if a bunch of supposed fags are kicking their butts?"

In writing sometimes marred by corny cliffhanger phrases like, "But problems were brewing," and an array of cheering victories, the conflicts are retold: the obstinate administrators who consistently side with arrogant and violent football jocks; the right-wing sprint coach whose behavior belies his "Christian" claims; the tumultuous town meetings where bigots spew their beliefs; and the cowardly vandals who damage several cars and make death threats.

Such scenes are being replayed in Orange County and across our country to this day. *Trailblazing* counters this ongoing drama with sketches of athletic success that will interest any running fan or active FrontRunner.

It's nice to have an account of one of the few teachers willing to risk his career to inspire queer kids to speak out, while unfortunately risking his own safety in the process. That Anderson's athletes became serious competitors amid such conflicts is an additional victory. ▼

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

sake, I won't go into detail. One never knows whose mother could be reading this!

All is in readiness in the Windy City for the hordes that are arriving hourly for IML 2000. With executive producer Bill Stadt at the helm, disco diva Bonnie Pointer scheduled to entertain, and 1,001 parties planned, the world's biggest leather competition is shaping up to be a landmark event for the new millennium.

Alas for all Web surfers, Int'l. Mr. Leather 2000 will not be streaming out live via the Net this year. You stay-at-homes can get the results at any of your local leather bars. They should be phoned in from Chicago on Sunday night around 2000 or 2100. And of course I'll bring you all the results in this column next week.

To all you IML 2000 contestants: Good luck!

New Travel Fund Pin

Among the prizes for the IML 2000 winner is a \$1,000 travel fund. Anyone who has held a title, no matter at what level, knows that this is a mere pittance compared to the actual costs involved in traveling to and from fundraising events and contest judging. For this rea-

son, this year Int'l. Mr. Leather, Inc. has introduced the IML Travel Fund Pin. The special pin is a handsome bauble that can be had for a donation of \$20 or more. Wearing it will demonstrate your support of the incumbent. Each year that you donate, a "ladder" will be attached to it, creating an impressive ornament for your chest. The pin will be on sale at the IML booth in the Leather Mart at the Congress Hotel. Be the first in your neighborhood to wear it.

Drummer debut

For the moment, IML is on everybody's mind, but let us not forget that International Mr. Drummer is looming in the distance. In fact, last weekend in Dallas, the first regional Drummer contest — Gulf Coast Drummer & Drummer Boy — took place at the Dallas Eagle. The first contender out of the chute for the September finals is Randal Kinnear of Pawnee, Oklahoma. The new Gulf Coast Drummer Boy is Kevin Eddings of Tulsa. Five men vied for the Mr. Drummer title, and two boys for the Drummer Boy honor. Randal and Kevin will compete for International Mr. Drummer in September.

The 2001 calendar

The South of Market 2001 Bare Chest Calendar contests

came to a close last Thursday, May 18, when seven men jumped into the fray for the Mr. December 2001 spot.

Judges Dennis Silva, Daddy Philip Turner and Bauke Ylstra joined with SMMILE representative Scott Hrudika to face the troops. After the usual banter, ballyhoo and laughs, Ed Morgan, former Daddy's Bar manager, took the top spot, with Calvin Radford the runner-up. On June 1, all 13 men (there was a tie in one of the months) will compete for the front-cover spot on the 2001 calendar. The runner-up will grace the back cover.

Plan now to see all 13 men compete for the honor at the Powerhouse on Thursday, June 1. All the winners have been duly photographed by the esteemed James Scott Geras, and Miller Brewing and Golden Brands is once again graciously sponsoring the calendar's color printing. The final product should be ready for sale by the time Dore Alley Fair rolls around.

Finally, for all of you who want to keep up on all the latest news in the leather world, and who can't wait for my column, be sure to click on www.leatherpage.com. Columnists from around the country and Canada are featured, along with all the latest news. Surf's up! ▼

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SUSTIVA fits the way you live because you take it just once a day. It can be taken with or without meals, and there's no need to drink lots of liquid.

GENERALLY TOLERABLE SIDE EFFECTS

SUSTIVA is generally well tolerated, with fewer gastrointestinal (GI) side effects, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, than Viracept®.³ Diabetes, kidney stones, and life-threatening liver problems are rare.

SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in cynomolgus monkeys given SUSTIVA. See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.



Once Daily
SUSTIVATM
efavirenz

A color photograph of a man in a red sweater celebrating his 40th birthday. He is smiling broadly, looking down at a white birthday cake with lit candles. The cake has a '40' topper. He is surrounded by four family members (three women and one man) who are also smiling and looking at him. One woman is holding a small blue gift box. In the foreground, there are several wrapped gifts in blue and purple paper. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

...So Life Goes On

References: 1. DPC Study 006: SUSTIVA, 200mg versus 400mg QID, 45G and SUSTIVA 450mg versus 900mg QID.
2. DPC Study 006: SUSTIVA 200mg QID versus 400mg QID, 45G and SUSTIVA 450mg versus 900mg QID.
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Patient Information about SUSTIVA® (sus-TEE-vah)
for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection
Generic name: efavirenz (eh-FAH-vih-rehnz)

Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

What is SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

How does SUSTIVA work?

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take SUSTIVA?

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

Can children take SUSTIVA?

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

Who should not take SUSTIVA?

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after

you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA**:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA**:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

How should I keep SUSTIVA?

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

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TELEVISION

Babes with integrity, lots of Moms

by Victoria A. Brownworth

It was the best of TV, it was the worst of TV: We are talking about May sweeps, of course. The weddings, the break-ups, the tearful goodbyes, the murders — and that's just *Access Hollywood* and *ET*. Season finales of every show on network TV, with a few series finales thrown in, have been exploding (or imploding) all month, and will end in the crescendo of the late-starting, last-ending *NYPD Blue* next week.

Some were fabulous — *Third Watch*, *Pretender* and *The Others* ended with rather dramatic pyrotechnics. Some were tearful — even if you never watched *Spin City*, you tuned in to see Michael J. Fox exit stage left (announcing to Michael Boatman, who plays the queer Carter, that he's his best friend), and who could pass up the sobfest that was the series finale of *Beverly Hills 90210*? Some were a little gut-wrenching — *ER* lost Nurse Hathaway (Julianna Margulies) to the arms of Dr. Ross (like anyone could pass up George Clooney), and lost Dr. Carter (Noah Wyle) to drug addiction, while *The West Wing* ended in a stomach-churning militia moment reminiscent of Dallas 1963 and Oklahoma City 1995.

All that remain before the vast wasteland of summer reruns are the awards shows, which began with the Daytime Emmys on ABC, hosted by soignée soap diva Susan Lucci. Surprises abounded. Almost no-one was dressed badly (well, except Star Jones, who looked like an inflated Greek Goddess, and Rosie O'Donnell, who borrowed her clothes from *Mrs. Miniver*). Oprah left the hideous outfits she's been trussing herself into this season on the sausage factory floor where they belong, and looked elegant.

Another shocker: Regis, who brought ABC back from the ratings dead single-handedly, lost to Bob Barker and *Hollywood Squares* in the game show host category, while he and Kathie Lee lost to Rosie O'Donnell in the talk show category (even Rosie was shocked by this). The bizarre twist: *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* won for best game show as well as best game show direction. Guess the Academy thought the savvy questions carried the show? (Is that your final answer?! Talk about losers! Regis, you was robbed, honey. We adore Bob Barker, of course, but does anyone but Bruce Vilanch and Frank Langella watch *Hollywood Squares*?

Bold, beautiful bitch

Our favorite stunner of the

evening: Susan Flannery won a much-deserved award for best actress for her role as the imperial bitch of daytime, Stephanie Forrester on CBS's *The Bold and the Beautiful*. Flannery, reminiscent of Barbara Stanwyck in her heyday, has been with *B&B* since it began 13 years ago, and has also directed the show for half that time. A powerhouse actress who can melt paint off walls with tirades aimed at her arch-nemesis, Brooke Forrester (Katherine Kelly Lang), Flannery, the only older actress on daytime who is always front-burner, should have won an Emmy long before this.

Our favorite one-liner of the evening came when Donny and Marie Osmond presented an award (they also lost to Rosie). Marie hugged Donny, quipping, "I am so in love with my brother right now." The Angelina Jolie reprise was a howl.

Emmy's big moment was the Lifetime Achievement Award given to Barbara Walters and presented by Oprah, with a tribute by none other than Barbra Streisand. For those who think BW is merely the force behind the irritating ABC morning show *The View*, think again. BW is the female trail-blazer of network TV. In 1974, she became the first female co-host of the top-rated *Today* show, where she began her career as a writer in 1961. In 1976, BW became the first female news anchor.

Walters gave a gracious acceptance speak in which she thanked Hugh Downs, recently retired from their 20-year stint on *20/20*, and mentioned her late sister, Jackie, who was mentally disabled. Not one to talk about her triumphs or tribulations, few know BW supported her entire family — including an invalid mother, disabled sister and young daughter — while she sliced through the male-only world of network TV in the '60s and '70s. (BW was also a single mother before it was popular.) Joke as we might about the unintentional high camp of *The View*, BW's a classic.

Another classic news maven is Helen Thomas, who's been a fixture of the White House Press Corps for 40 years and a reporter in Washington for 60. Thomas quit last week less than 24 hours after the Rev. Sun Young Moon bought UPI, for which she's worked the better part of the last millennium. Thomas refused to work for Moon. Much as we'll miss Thomas' dogged gravel-voiced queries from the front row at press conferences, we are heartened that after 60 years in Washington, the old babe still has integrity. Brava!

Ben Hurt

The Million Mom March shot

a messy hole in the NRA plan to take over America one arsenal at a time. Charlton Heston opened the NRA convention this week waving a rifle around like it was his riding crop in *Ben Hur* and bitching about those crazy women in Al Gore's pocket. Somehow we don't think this is the best advertisement for gun safety or NRA sanity, but hey, what do we know, we still think guns kill people.

The creepiest TV moment of the Million Mom March came last Friday, when *Good Morning America* held a town meeting at the White House with

President Clinton, March reps, and the counter-demonstrators, Sisters for the Second Amendment, a disturbing female Promisekeepers branch of the NRA. Many of the Million Moms were there because their children had been killed by guns. One woman's daughter was sitting in her suburban backyard sunbathing last summer when someone shot a gun into the air a half-mile away, and the bullet came down right through the 15-year-old's brain, killing her instantly. Yet the sick Sisters claim guns are essential to American life, and registration of firearms won't stop gun violence. Hard to imagine how anyone could sit amidst a room full of women mourning their dead children and say more killing would be a good thing.

Clinton gave a stellar performance, as usual. That he managed not to strangle any of the NRA gals even as they twisted everything he said showed more restraint than we could have mustered. But then, Ken Starr taught him well.

We would like to point out that the Million Mom March was organized by one woman in nine

months and paid for by small donations. Unlike the Millennium March for Assimilation, which took three years to plan (the better to steal more money from queers),

is currently several mill in the hole, and didn't garner widespread support nor much media coverage, the Million Mom March actually accomplished something. Perhaps Elizabeth Birch should contact Donna DeThomas to find out how grassroots politics works.

Speaking of politics, Rudy Giuliani gave it up last Friday, and Rick Lazio kicked off in his place a New York minute later. The pundits had been making bets on how long it would take the Mayor to step out of the race, given his cancer diagnosis and messy marital situation. But no doubt Hillary Clinton was praying he'd have enough hubris to stay in. Lazio will be a tougher challenge — 42, pro-choice and moderate, with none of Giuliani's polarizing baggage. Lazio's first speech pilloried Hillary as a "liberal" (them's fightin' words), stating,

"She's no more a New Democrat than she is a New Yorker." Stay tuned — this battle might be bigger than the season opener.

On a lighter note, Bill Maher spent the week on *Politically Incorrect* paying tribute to *Playboy After Dark*, hosting the show from the Playboy Mansion. The subject each night was sex, and Hugh Hefner was on hand, so to speak, for queries. These shows reminded us that Hefner brought sex out of the closet in America.

A few bon mots included discourse on homosexuality and masturbation. When asked if he masturbated, Hef didn't hesitate to say yes. He also said he takes Viagra every day (the Playboy multivitamin, we presume). Maher queried guests and Hef about why lesbianism (or two chicks doing it) became a staple of male porn, while two men together would never appear in *Playboy* or any other straight porn mag. Hef explained men believe two women together are an invitation for a man to join them. Maher admitted, "I find the idea of two men together icky. But I defend and support their right to do so. My politics are very pro-gay, even if my sexuality isn't." Maher claimed queer ideologues would take offense. We thought it was right on.

Finally, the campiest TV moment this week was Bill Cosby on *Martha Stewart*. The two were making homemade fruit and gelatin (no Jello for Miss Stewart) desserts for summer picnics. And they are laughing all the way to the bank, kids. ▼



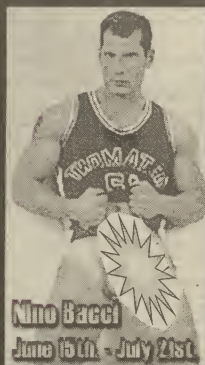
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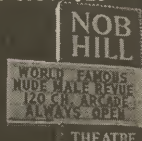
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THEATRE

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Funny Face

◀ page 32

pabulum of the day as well as the sophistication that would become their enduring reputation.

But even for that acme of standards, "S Wonderful," the book provides implausible motivation. In cases like this, one is best advised to think less and listen more. Mostly, the production was a pleasure to listen to under Brandon Adams' musical direction, though the lyrics in several songs became muddy in the amplification system.

Working in costumes but without sets or props, and with scripts sometimes in hand, the cast was often able to make us forget that this was a staged concert. As fellow

wards, Amy Cole and Marcia Lanzo were dizzily winsome, while Christian Cagigal, Brian Yates Sharber and Thom Babbes managed to convey the sense behind material written for performers from whom original audiences expected a certain shtick. Bill Fahrner, as the male romantic lead, managed to combine his usual comic persona with a dash of leading-man stature.

The chance to see a *Funny Face* provides a quick lesson in changing entertainment tastes. Puns, for example, were a staple of this script. "Where's your chivalry?" inquires one character. "I traded it in for a Cadillac," comes the reply. Audiences must have laughed in 1927. Today they feel obligated to groan. ▼

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PARTING GLANCES

AG Ferrari Thur 20 April PM
You #43, me #45 a few words, smiles. Interested? Meet for coffee and dessert? I liked your smile. ☎ 71868

Seeking Roark From San Bruno
We met once at Steamworks- can't forget about you. You GAM, me GWM, want to see you again. ☎ 71869

Ferd!
Just want to see if you really do read the personals. Next time should I list this under seeking relationship? signed... you know who. ☎ 71870

Chris Zapata Taqueria 4/12
I enjoyed our lunch. You have the most beautiful blue eyes. I'd love to go to Angel Island with you! Please call, John. ☎ 71871

Kirk@Yerba Buena Gardens
I finally met you. I think you're very cute. Can we start a friendship? Floyd ☎ 71889

Thurs 4-27 10&1030 Market St.
Me: Redhaired lad with goatee. You: intense handsome dark haired businessman. We looked & smiled. Later you passed me by Stacey's, smiled again. I'd really like to. ☎ 71890

My Navy Blue Modo Frames
Caught your eye at Market Street Safeway. But you need to look again to see if the fit is correct. When can we make that appointment? ☎ 71925

28th Ave. & Geary Tues Am May 2
You- WM walking up 28th with coffee in hand. Me- WM walking down. Turned and looked lots of times. In the neighborhood? Call. ☎ 71926

Met At Metreon 5/5- "Gladiator"
Hector, you & friend (?) accepted my invite to sit together. Talked briefly after film. Didn't get your number (heavy sight)! Would like to see you again. Dinner? Scary movie? Robert. ☎ 71927

Pleasuremate 5/14 Duncan
I'm glad you said hello, and I love watching you dance. Would you whisper in my ear again. Jon ☎ 71952

Bald Guy In A McDonald's On 5/11.
I am looking (?) Asian man that wishes that I would have had the balls to say something to you. Call me please. ☎ 71953

Santiago 5-3
18th Street Subway at Noe. You: cute GAM, wearing Hawaii t-shirt. Me: behind you in line, sunglasses & green shirt, wish I said hello. Talk? Sometime? ☎ 71954

Last Car On Bart-Wend Rush Hour
Me, sitting reading BAR; you standing near by. Exchanged sexy glances. Lost you at 12th Str. When I met a friend- Bummer! Would love to say hello. ☎ 71956

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Hip Boots Blow Buddies Sun 5/7
You: leather "dad" with beard and tall boots, me: s/p hair, mustache, eager cock-sucker. We met outside, I took a smoke break. Need a suck slave? ☎ 71955

Rust Brown Volvo At Arco 4/20
You blonde with goatee: navy running shorts; white tee. Me: black topaz; shaved head. We were both filling up on gas. You #8, me #7; we looked and smiled several times. Please call me so we can talk and more. ☎ 71867

Looking For Life Partner
Professional top, Latin-looking 32yrs, 6', 150lbs. WLM romantic, loving and monogamous man, 30+, not into bars. Like movies, laughter, intimate times and travel. No drugs. ☎ 71838

Reward Me
With your great looks and nice body. Show me your sexy erotic naked needs. Be ready for me. ☎ 71839

Above Ronnie
Daddy, we had our good times- with lots of bad- but even you say we deserve better. So let us give each other better- let us work it out. Love you. ☎ 71841

Senior Sex Seniors...
For good fellowship and vigorous man-to-man sex. Call for details. In SF. ☎ 71841

Got A Crotch Full Of Goodies?
I'm hooked on spurted cum, fresh hot piss, smelly cheese if uncult, licking sweat off big balls and rimming squeaky clean assholes there's no tomorrow (but no scat)! ☎ 71842

Seeking Sex Buddy
GWM, 54, 5'8", 185, brn/blue, HIV-, wishes to meet Randy GM who enjoys being jacked off by another guy. Let's play safely, but still have a good time. ☎ 71843

Husband Material
GWM, 42y.o., 200lbs, gm eyes, s/p hair, HIV-. Seeking 35 to 45y.o. hairy top. I'm professional, easy going & financially secure. Like to travel, music, movies, have quality time w/that special guy. HIV-only. ☎ 71844

Love Me Tender I'll Be Only 4 You
I'm 36, 5'7", 142lbs, Brazilian, hot, horny, clean, educated, stable, nice hard dick, masculine, seeking GM under 40 for friendship. After that romance, only love & sex. ☎ 71845

GAM 48 Seeks GWM 55 Or Over
For LTR. I am average build, prefer non-smoker & clean shaven. ☎ 71872

Hot French Love
French guy in 30's or 40's desired for more than friendship by hung romantic blue eyed European in 30's. ☎ 71891

ISO Uncut Asian Hung/Son/Lover
Ub sweet/smar/ empend/cuddler/ready, 4 trim GWM daddy 39: addic/cockucker/rimmer/sweat off balls/licker/piss drinker/Phi Beta Kappa/catch of your life. ☎ 71873

Philipino Men
GWM 6'2" 165lbs. Would like to orally service you deep for 1 or 2 hours. Lay back and enjoy my tongue. I can take it all - your manhood. ☎ 71874

Win Win Situation
Good-looking, mid-thirties, WM (6'1", brown hair, green eyes, height-weight proportionate, clean-shaven), conventional looking / liberal thinking, college teacher, masseur, warm, sincere, sensually adept, communicative. Mediterranean looks a plus. Let's talk possibilities! ☎ 71875

32 WM Cute Muscular Bottom
8/19y 5'7", 175lbs. HIV+ into cycling, swimming, weights, music, food, laughter, sex. ISO GM 25-45, any race. Well built, muscular, intelligent & sensual. ☎ 71876

Hot, Muscular, Passionwellrounded
GWM, muscular, hot bod, caring, fun, 35, loves a variety of things, 5'11", 175lbs, HIV+, spiritual, passionate. ISO same for great chemistry w/friend and long term lover. ☎ 71877

Partner Wanted Honestly Helps
GWM, 5'11", 165#, 35, ns, nd, HIV-, seeks for one. Likes travel, walks, movies, gardening 35-55 for LTR. ☎ 71878

Spank Me
Cute little frat boy 22 needs over the knee discipline from a dominant big brother. Me? 5'11", 155# blonde smooth bottom boy. Athletic into jockstraps, speeds and dads hand on my bottom. Location China Town. ☎ 71892

Mature Man Wanted
Seeking a matured man late 50s to 60s, weight proportioned to height who would enjoy being serviced on a periodic basis, no reciprocation necessary. Must have your own place. Let's get together! ☎ 71893

Looking For Older Black Male
GWM, 45, 5'11", gr/b, 170, slim, prof. would like to meet Black masculine male 40-65 for dating or more. Me HIV-, s/s same, like dining out & romantic times. Call me. ☎ 71846

GWM-48- Seeks-GAM/GWM-To-45
For monogamous long term relationship. Must enjoy movies, theatre and home life. No barflies or drugs. ☎ 71894

GWM 45yrs, HIV+ Bottom
Handsome 45yrs old, HIV+, bottom looking for GWM HIV+ top ages 40-50 for fun, sex & possible LTR. ☎ 71935

Professional & Passionate Guy
35yr old European guy, 6ft tall, 175lb, brn hair, blue eyes. HIV- & fit. Into travel, hiking, music, & having fun. ISO prof. Looking for romance & friendship. ☎ 71929

Handsome Muscular Italian
40, 6'2", 185lbs. Into fitness, travel, romance and quiet times seeks another HIV negative extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 71896

HIV+Blk5'9"1165#Healthy Active
Mostly top, seeking 1on1 interaction with lean or slim build mostly bottom. Attracted to guys with good body proportion. Prefer guys in my size range. ☎ 71959

Old Fashion Love
GWM, 34, 6'3", 200# Into romance, passion, possibly monogamous, LTR seeks GWM 30-40 interested in same. Humor A+. The real thing!! Please, no games. ☎ 71898

"Grandpa" Seeks "Grandson"
To age 30, to care for & help get going in life. I am sincere- you too- let's talk. Any race good. ☎ 71900

35yo Blond/Redhead Wheelchair
Goatee, seeks sexy male who enjoys being top to passionate bottom, must enjoy kissing and touching for LTR. ☎ 71901

Calling Homebodies
GAM, 34, ISO friends to play tennis & bowling, enjoy tv & movies, dine, visit amusement parks. Tobacco user okay. HIV- Guys in & outside Bay Area equally welcome. ☎ 71902

Str. Acting GWM 6', 170lbs.
35 years old, average to good looks, like to ride bike, dining, movies, travel & a few cold ones. Once in a while looking for GWM with some interests. Discreet reply please. ☎ 71903

Positive Hunk For You
Stable, sincere, goodlooking, GWM, 5'10", 185lbs, 46 chest, 32w, 18"p, looking for friendship, dating, possible LTR with other HIV+ who has a brain as well as a good body. ☎ 71928

Watchful For A Sexy, Masculine,
& energetic man who can keep up with an intense 29yr hot and passionate guy recently into leather, Universe, revealing w/friends but always into quiet weekends/river, extremes, everyday pleasures. Together enough stances to know our identities with another and always with a heavy sex appeal! ☎ 71930

Hot Latino
US GWM, 45ish, HIV-, hunky, into sucking and getting sucked. I'm trim, good-looking, with a good outdoor job. So call? ☎ 71933

Ukrainian Man 33yo, 182cm/82kg
Likes discipline and punishments. Open for contacts with concyretic ideas about visits, travel, job and interesting correspondence. Call. ☎ 71934

Man Of The Heart
WM, 35, youthful, HIV+ open to love, healthy positive attitude, down to earth, sense of humor, looking for HIV+ male masculine, 25-37. Emotional available attractive, playful, top, ready for love. ☎ 71895

Sexy Asian
Seeking sincere, honest. Lots of humor. GWM 40-55. Me- 5'6", 140#. Enjoy movie, music, possible LTR. ☎ 71932

Submit!
Leather boy wanted by leather dad in E. Bay. Dad is experienced in bdsm, total top, 50's, 6' 225, mass, hung. UB White, fit, hairy+musc. Preferred for play/LTR. HIV-. ☎ 71937

Seeking Brainy Guy
GWM, 54, 5'8", 185, brn/blue, HIV-, wishes to meet a man of ideas, intellect and curiosity- a bright fellow interested in conversation, discourse- and the pursuit of happiness and fulfillment. ☎ 71957

GWM LTD Time Offer Big XXXX
Adventurous affectionate, 6'-1", 175#, br/gr, 40 look 33, clean shaven, athletic, nonsmoker, early riser, own flat, swim, hike, cook, museums, nude massage, romantic b+b's or "Thelma and Louise" roadtrips. ☎ 71936

Passion Sought
I'm an HIV+ top 48, 5'8" 140lbs, brn/ry mustache seeking a stoy total fisting and passion. ☎ 71897

GWM Seeks Sweetheart
ISO a warm, caring & considerate, GHM or GWM, 36-46, HIV-, who enjoys the outdoors, movies, dining out, kissing & cuddling. Me: GWM, a young 42, HIV-, 5'9", 155lbs. brn/blue. ☎ 71958

Looking For A HIV+ Partner?
Interested in a emotional, spiritual, sexual, and intellectual connection? I'm a huge, 54yo, HIV+, worldly, well mannered/educated, professional, live alone, radical activist, warm, non-possessive, workout, 5'11", 175, hot kinky sex, versatile-top, hung, zero crop hair. You: want to be in a LTR with someone you want to hand on to, share life with. ☎ 71899

Rugged Guy
Professional, clean-cut, athletic Asian, 52, 5'8", 155, seeks similar lean or gym-toned, clean shaven WM into hiking, sports, running, workouts, cultural arts, films, ethnic foods, quiet interludes and you? ☎ 71879

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino 34yo black hair, goatee, brown eyes. Professional looking for byw/m between 27-40yo for friendship. Me like go out dinner, biking, travel, hiking, just call. ☎ 71960

Straight From The Heart!
Very cute GWM, mid-30's, by next door seeks top for making love, romance and laughter. ☎ 71931

Let's Date
GWM, 42, 200lbs. s&p hair, HIV-, seeks 35-45y.o. Top. I am financially secure prof who likes fun times and engaging conversation. HIV-only pls. Just a call away. ☎ 71961

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Let's Play With It
Slip out your swollen penis buds & show 'em off. Slap & slide our stiff donks together, make 'em swing & sway. I'm 48, 5'9", 155, bald, furry, good looking. Verbal and/or Asian a+. ☎ 71847

Chubby, Fat, Stocky, Heavy-Set
GBM, 46y.o., 5'11", 250lbs. seeks chubby & fat men for uninhibited safe sex. Discretion a must. Big tits, thighs, legs & butts a plus. ☎ 71848

2 Cockuckers
Looking for hot, uncut cocks to suck off by a goodlooking couple who works as a team. ☎ 71849

Daytime/Playtime
I'm GWM, HIV+, top, 6', 185#'s with days free seek playmate bottoms in Sonoma County for kissing, sucking, fucking! ☎ 71850

Hand Roast A Rump In Your Lap
With moderate heat, roast covered rump 15 minutes. Strip outer layer, raise heat and baste to pink. Uncover and broil 1 hour til flesh is red, tender and blazingly hot. ☎ 71851

Play With This
I've got big nipples, big half round bubble butt and big dick...which one do you want to play with? "Safe sex only" ☎ 71852

Viking ISO Masculine Man
Swedish GM, 41y.o., 5'10", 145lbs. cobalt blue/dark blond, mustache, thin and fair, poz, ISO masc./muscular man w/ facial hair, poz, party animal, top, to have fun with. ☎ 71853

Bootlicking Fetish
Seek hunk to age 45 who will allow me to lick and polish boots. Especially excited my military, police & cowboy attire. ☎ 71854

Got Dick??
Average GWM professional 50's, HIV-, 6'2", 200# non-gym, witty, down to earth, smoker, looking for nice guy with cut fat tool to orally service. ☎ 71855

Young Slave For Dog Training
Very cute 26y.o. submissive boy from Eastern Europe wants to dog trained by a cute but demanding master(s). Full obedience & cooperation guaranteed. ☎ 71856

My Priorities For Your Crotch:
Convincing I/you I'm your world-class (A) cocksucker (B) rimmer (C) piss drinker (D) cheese eater (if mercifully uncult)! I'm ready, but...are you? ☎ 71857

Got Foreskin?
VGL, 30yr GWM, ISO uncult White men to orally service. You be 18-35, masc., into kicking back for intense oral pleasure. Pluses: smooth/shaved, muscular, verbal, blond, hung. ☎ 71858

Mature Nipples
WM, 57, seeking mature for safe rimming and heavy nipple work. Big tongue, beard, 6', 190, thick cock. You 55 plus. ☎ 71859

Asian Cockucker Palo Alto 42
5'11"-190-lb, sht hair, brn eyes, seeks 36-46y.o. guys to suck off. Have car will travel within the Peninsula, at your place. ☎ 71860

Santa Rosa. Hot Bottom
Great shape, 40, 175#, 6', brn/bm. Looking for in shape top. ☎ 71861

They Call Me "Big Black"
I need a tall, husky, non-bearded, submissive bottom to ride my rod. Discreet, experienced only. Moustache a plus. Fast, hot action. I'm 45, 5'9", 180lbs. honest. ☎ 71880

Hot Man-Pussy
Asian, 35, 5'8", 165, in shape, total bottom wants to surrender his hot shaved hole to you. First, cock, I want it all. East Bay. ☎ 71881

One Wild Fuck
Vers. muscle fuck looking for masculine handsome men to screw. I'm ready 24/7 to take you down. Can you do the same for me? ☎ 71882

Horny In San Leandro
Handsome, hot 39yr. old GWM, loves to suck dick, slow and long. you tell me how you like it, open to all fantasies, call me 24 hours. ☎ 71883

I'm An Old Gray-Haired Cockucker
Who does that he's told. Put your prick- I'll put my tongue-where we can both enjoy it. Pluses: friendliness, experience, lean physique, unmistakable masculinity. Any race. East Bay. ☎ 71884

Let's Do It
Wanna fuck me? I wanna fuck you. I'm 52 yr. old, 6'2", 180lbs, 7' - You are heavyweight, somewhat the same. HIV+. ☎ 71885

Like To Suck Cock And Get Fucked
GWM, 5'11", 175lbs. HIV-, n/s/n/d, I like to suck cock 6 to 8". Like to play with your ass and balls, get fucked while watching video's. Please call, age no factor. ☎ 71886

Cock Sucker Needed
Mature WM, slim, hairy, HIV- 7"uncut, seek gay male HIV- with 8" or for sucking and licking. ☎ 71904

Seeking Younger Submissive Man
Attr. mature man, 76, 5'8", 165, seeks gdl's under 45 man for ongoing sex. I especially enjoy being a dad or/ and master to a trainable sexy boy. ☎ 71905

JO Adventurer
Uncut sucker seeks curious hedonist any age/race, to wallow together in prolonged edging, egoless ecstasy, and full-stop self pleasuring. Side-by-side scene (no physical contact necessary). ☎ 71906

Ask Massage-Erotic Spanking
Look at, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, spank, probe & screw your butt. Me: attract, GWM, 45, 6'5", 250lbs, stocky. Your: attract, GAM (White, Asian, Latin), slim, smooth-muscled bodyhair, nice buns. ☎ 71907

Submissive Role Player
Need a dominant verbal guy with a trim build to tell me what to do. This masculine lean WM 42 is open to your fantasies. ☎ 71908

Poz Ital 4 Vers Asians
Masc. 36, 6'1", 220# loves to rim, suck, fuck-topbottom. UB 18-40 Asian or smooth White dude. ND, ok my place or yours. ☎ 71909

Daddy & Son Seek Asian For
Second sex. BM, 25, 6'9", muscles. Top son & WM, 45, 5'10", 160#. Muscles. Top dad seek AM, bottom son. SF week-days. ☎ 71910

Chronic Masturbation Addict
GWM, 32, thin, chronic masturbator, jacks compulsively naked for hours, days, wants like-minded buddy for repeated, obsessive, marathon sessions. Under 35, thin, South Bay A+. ☎ 71911

Pussy Videos
I'd like to come over & watch pussy videos pretending we're straight. We'd get so horny that we'd have to take it out, show it off & then get down dirty. ☎ 71912

Fantasy Ecstasy You And Me
GWM, HIV+, 30's, romantic, hot passionate bottom ISO, Latin, White, Black tops 35-45yrs seeking fuckbuddy's "no head games!" ☎ 71913

Seek GM For Passionate Fun
GWM, 46, 5'8", 145 seeks trim Asian. Latin, or Black for passionate early morning or daytime fun. Must like to kiss, hug, stroke & get passionately wild! Your place or mine. ☎ 71914

Expert Cockucker Wanted
Horny Black guy, 34, 5'11", 200lbs needs oral service by cocksucking expert. Prefer older, 40-50 White guy or Asian. Suck my cock-lick my balls. ☎ 71915

Amateur Dickstiter
ISO practice partners. Talented asshole self. Adjusts to accommodate cocks of any size, race or age. ☎ 71916

Waters Warm In My Hot Tub
Russian River guy with room to grow. Avid oral endurance performance by command, sir. No job too small, but some too big. No recip. nec. but enjoyed. ☎ 71917

Balding And Near 50
But hung and horny Black man seeks a mature, masculine oral expert to suck my stick. Oakland area. No voicemail, answering machine, pager or work phone #s. Sincere only. Thanks. ☎ 71965

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Couples ☐

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Address _____ Evening Telephone _____

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Headline, 30 characters maximum _____

Write the rest of your ad here, 30 words maximum _____

MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

You must use this form to submit ads. Deadline for ads is **TUESDAY at 5 PM**, for the following week's issue. New ads run for three consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

Well-Hung Bottom Seeks Top
GWM 49, 5'8", 140# salt-pepper hair, HIV+, 8"+ cut, vers. Bottom looking for hot top for long party sessions. ☎ 71918

Black Top Looking For Buddy
I'm 40, 5'10", 205#, well-built. Looking for a masculine Black or Latino bottom, 35-50, with a great butt and/or great legs for fun at my place in SF. ☎ 71919

Cute Latino Boy
You: 35-50, goodlooking, generous, top, White or Latino and romantic. Me: Your wet dream! You won't be sorry! ☎ 71920

Sexy GAM Wants Doggy-Style Fun
Filipino, 31, clean cut, athletic build, smooth, boyish seeks GWM for soft kisses and hard pumping. Couples welcome. Blonds a plus. ☎ 71921

East Bay Cock Sucker Seeking
A local tool to service any age/race. I'm HIV-, White, 6', 160, 40's. Porn tapes while servicing? Camcord same close up? ☎ 71922

Dad ISO Boy
Dad late 40's looking for boy 20's-30's with interest in leather SM related activities/lifestyle. Mentor rather than playmate. Honest. Genuine interest in ongoing training/companionship. ☎ 71938

Are You Ready
To meet a very active 66y.o. gay Jewish male who is slim and good-looking? Slen-der Latin or Asian a plus. Hayward area. ☎ 71939

Silver Fox Seeks Same
50yo pos GWM, 5'10", 170lbs., uncult, ISO a few good men 40-60 wanting hot oral sex. Reciprocation not necessary. Daytime adventures o.k. Bottom for right top. ☎ 71940

Asian For White Male
Asian male, 36, 145lbs, 5'7" attractive, in great shape, smooth, clean shaven. In search of White Male in their 30's, smooth, and good shape for friends, dates and more. ☎ 71941

Let's Play Doctor
I'll strip you naked as I examine you and you'll be scared or shy or ashamed or bad & definitely hard, then you'll do me and we'll get so horny together. ☎ 71942

Big Bush
Do you have a really thick, big bush of hair down there? Want to strip, pose, be sketched? Attractive GWM, 40's, trim and fit, wants to watch and sketch gay/bi or str8 guys. ☎ 71943

Well-Hung Butch Bottom
GWM 49, 5'8", 140#, sp hair, HIV+, 8"+ cut, vers., very oral and anal... Looking for butch top for long party sessions! ☎ 71944

Horny Hot Bottom
Fuck my pussy hungry hole with your delicious cock. Me: cute and always horny. You must be 20-45 with any race. ☎ 71945

Hot White Or Latino Bottoms
Wanted by 56yr old White male 6'0", 160lbs dm/bm hair brn eyes glasses big 9" cock wants to fuck hot White or Latin bottoms ages 18-40. ☎ 71946

Submissive Black Bottom
In good shape, athletic body. Hot mouth, deep throat seeks top, verbal & raunchy, kink, sleaze + wk ends & eve. ☎ 71962

Young Slave For Training
Very cute 26y.o. submissive European boy wants to be trained by a cute but demanding master(s) under 36. Total obedience is guaranteed. ☎ 71963

I Want To Suck You Off, Slowly
1 or 2 at a time, in-shape. Straight acting, notnelly, Mexican & Cowboys A+. I'm 35, masculine but submissive & ready to service you. Sir! ☎ 71964

Non Hairy Bear Top
56 GWM HIV- 6'5", 265 wants shorter HIV- hairy bear bottom with hot hole, playful tits, aroma/smoke are fine. ☎ 71966

Bodybuilder Phone 50
Bodyworship, muscle sex, role play, orders, flexing, posing, weightlifting in jockstrap. Call with your fantasy. 59", 195lb. 45", c. 16a. ☎ 71967

LESBIAN

Seeking Lesbian
GWM European 24 seeks Lesbian to share experience. ☎ 71781

Seeking Lesbian
GWM French, 24 seeks lesbian to share experience. ☎ 71887

FETISHES

LTH Son Seeks 2 LTH Granddads
Blond bootlicker 45/HIV-ss into s/m, b/d, w/s will give anal/oral service to 2 hot, hung tops, 65+ Do me daddies! ☎ 71801

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That make it worth the time & trouble of sucking you all the way. Your tool will love the way I suck it. (uncut a plus). ☎ 71802

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W/M, looking for other raunch hounds into derelicts, winos & homeless guys, for heavy raunch action. ☎ 71969

Eroticism in Bondage & S/M
G blonde & Asian couple, cute, muscular, 33 & 38, wishes to be striped & tied up by G couple or single, under 40, submission, CBT & more, switch roles will be great. ☎ 71804

ISO Jackstraps & Foreskin
GWM 46 daddy type ISO younger uncut boy with a dirty jock and mind into mutual sucking, rimming, j.o. Video's, sweat, role play, toys, underwear, anything goes. Relationship possible. ☎ 71805

Master 48, Experienced-
Seeks whipping/bondage slave- eager to please, and serve. Subject should be 24-38 with some training and the real drive to belong. Subject dedicated to the satisfaction of its master. Limits respected/expanded. \$ 71862

FFT Seeks Latin/Asian/Black FFB
Into getting punched and stretched. Me: GWM 28, 6'2", 155#, stocky, goatee. You: any age, speed free. A+ for facial hair, stocky flat top. Safe sex a must. ☎ 71863

Daytime Asshole-Eater!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!!!! ☎ 71864

Furry Lip And Open Throat?
Hung and horny East Bay man, 46, enjoys watching a moustache bouncing on his big stick. Too big for beginners. Please no beards or goates, voicemail or work phones. ☎ 71865

Talented Mouth And Tongue
By energetic GWM, 38, 5'8", 125#, go-t, gym love to suck, rim, drink piss. You: In-shape, take charge, wanting tongue lashing, White/Latin. ☎ 71923

Straight Seeks Senior Citizen
Masculine-attractive WM, 57, needs male over 65 with two or more senior friends to arrange circle jerk with me as center piece. Ok- to video tape or take photos. ☎ 71924

Chubby? Got A Belly?
Trim Chaser/encourager seeks 20-35 yo guy with healthy appetite. Let me feed you and build your belly. Forget fit, I like you fat. ☎ 71947

BikeShorts-Jockstraps-Spandex
Wanted athletic gay male and your gear. Bring your jockstrap, spandex shorts etc. And we will have a good time, you won't be disappointed. ☎ 71948

Bondage, Shaving And Tickling
Submissive bottom, 36, 5'10", 165, brn, hzl, good looking dominant top for bondage/shaving/ fucking scene. How would you handle me, Sir? ☎ 71949

Daytime Asshole-Eater!!
Get your asshole eaten by a pro!! ☎ 71968

Seek Red/Brown Flag Lt Sm Top
By mature GWM for training, limit expanding, service, bondage, restraint, prefer mature, hairy, single, serious/intense man. Leather, old Soma A+++. ☎ 71970

COUPLES

Want To Watch??? Join In???
Two men into fucking. Don has huge stiff uncult cock. Sub is older, eager to get worked over. Slick action. ☎ 71806

Rub-A-Dub, Three Or More In a Tub
Sonoma Co.gdklg GWM couple, 40's, HIV+, w/facial hair, seek adventurous tops, bottoms, singles, couples for wet, hot times in our hot tub, sling and playroom. ☎ 71888

When One Is Not Enough!
ISO masculine versatile daddy type to assist dad work his boys holes frt & rear and to satisfy our needs. Double anal penetration possible, aroma and herb ok 40+. ☎ 71971

OTHERS

San Francisco Muscle Sex Party
Are you defined, buff, muscle jock who enjoys having sex in a comfortable environment with other hot muscle studs? If this ad peaks your curiosity, then give us a call. You want be disappointed. ☎ 71972

Bisexual Deadhead
Seeks all cummers, m or f, singles or couples. Friendships, fuckbuddies, lovers, smoke, drinks, music & camping. Long play sessions leather, w/s, b/d all. Pluses. Long haired horny bottom pig. ☎ 71807

I'm Looking To Keep Up My
Language practice. Intense French romantic: GWM 30's desires French boyfriend. Charming. Wild. Magical. Not into "tricky French games." How can we meet? ☎ 71808

Swedish Girl
Swedish girl new to Bay Area. Having such a blast. Looking to make GM friends, interests, business etc.. ☎ 71866

Out Of Town
GWM, 6'0", 35, slim, attractive, slightly feminine relocating from Dallas mid June seeks masculine GM 30-50 for escort around San Francisco. Enjoy movies, music, comedy clubs, concerts, some theater. ☎ 71950

Versatile FF Leather Pig
GWM, 180#, 40 positive on disability/ healthy, seeks special friend into leather w/s, f, versatile, sm. Long term, room needed, age, race not important, honesty is. ☎ 71951

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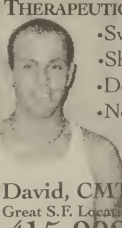
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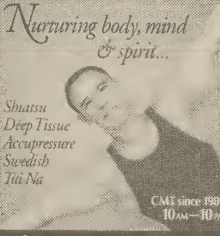
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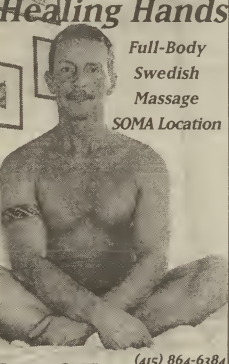
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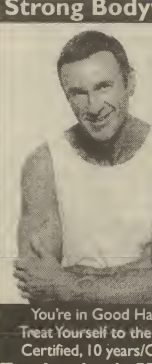
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Deep penetrating massage
by Mike- \$60 out 241-9934 ^{E21}

MASSAGE

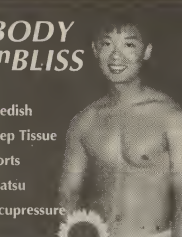


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Clean-Private play space
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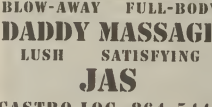
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CMT full-body by Ramon

Erotic Nude \$50 925-689-6076

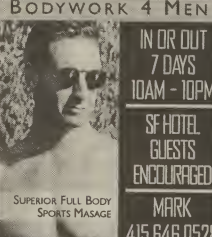
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Cute blonde CMT gives Swedish/Deep Tissue massage using table, hot oil.
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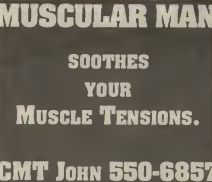
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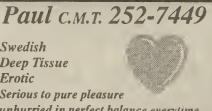
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Want amuse of touch
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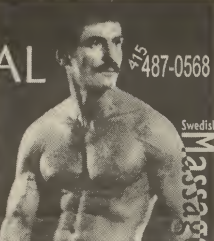
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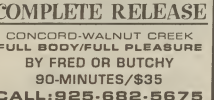
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muscular
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strong,
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hands
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Great massage by handsome,
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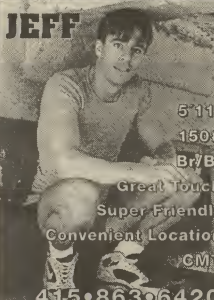
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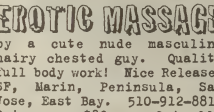
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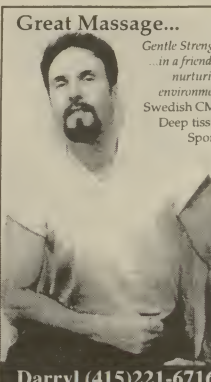
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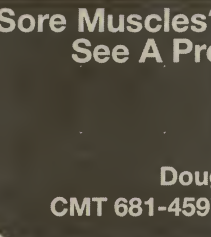
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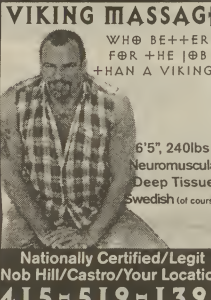
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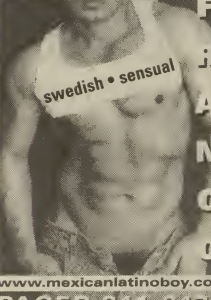
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clean ex park nr SFO best time
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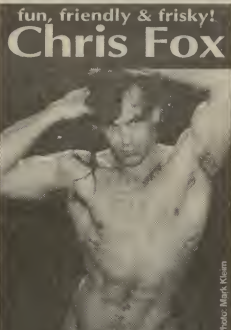
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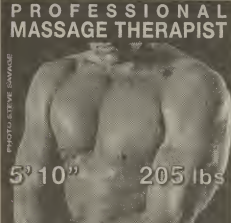
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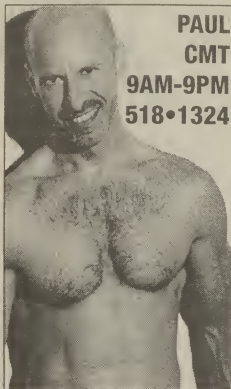
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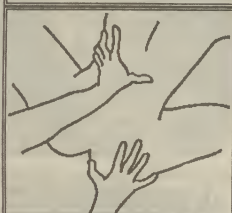

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Special
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Page 46.

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Fullbody erotic pleasure from, warm,
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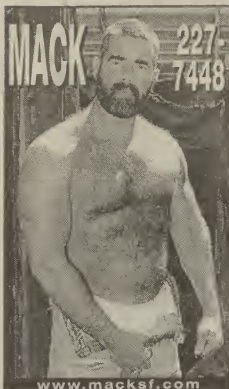
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PRIETO**
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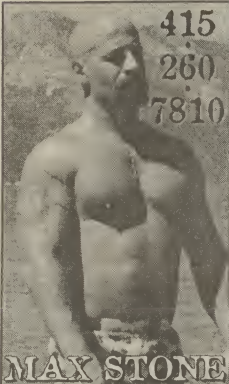
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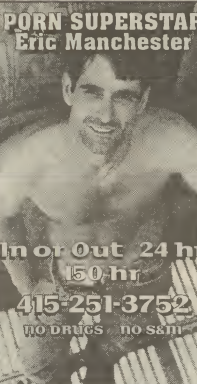
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dominant mascln gentle strength
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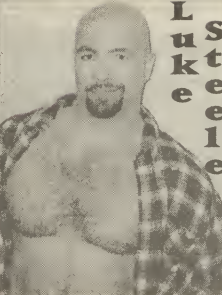
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kickin back, getting serviced, and
blowin my load. Also w/s. light b/d,
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Sexy, slender Latin jock smooth,
clean uncult any area
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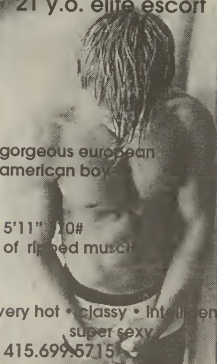
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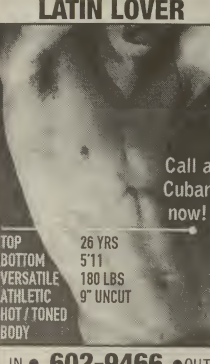
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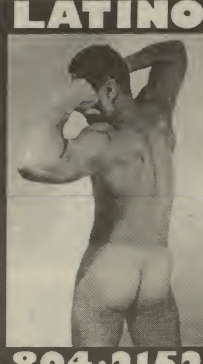
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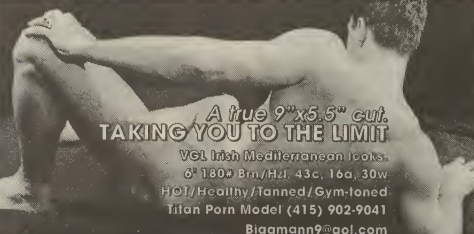
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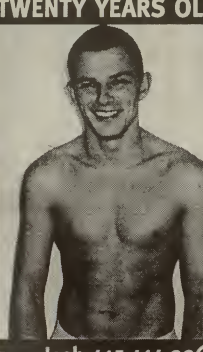
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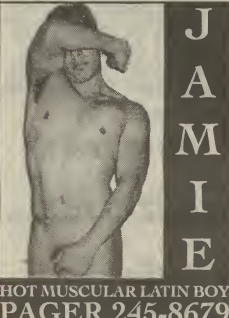
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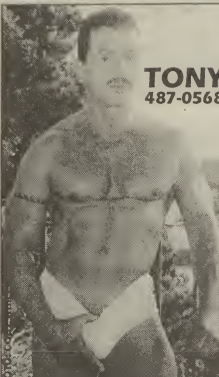
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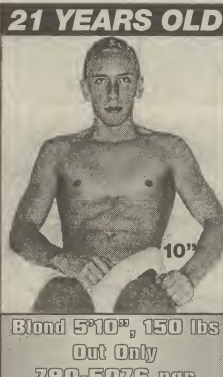
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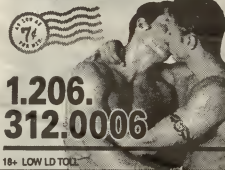
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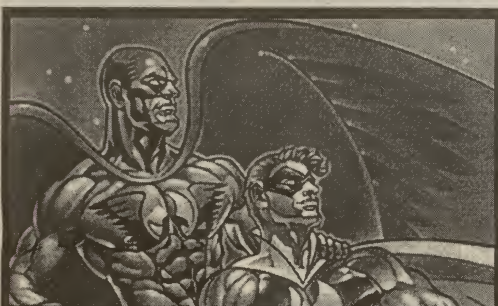
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\$4.00 ea. post-paid (S&H included)

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The **BAY AREA REPORTER** Gay Pride Issue
is just around the corner!

Our Annual Gay Pride Issue hits the streets on
June 22nd, 2000

for Rates/Info: BARadv@aol.com or Call 415.861.5019

DEADLINES

Display Ads: June 9 - 5:00pm

Line Ads: June 19 - 12:00pm

Inserts: June 9 - 5:00pm

BAY AREA REPORTER

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY.

Payment must accompany ad.
No ads taken over the
telephone. If you have a
question, call 415.861.5019.
Display advertising rates
available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

Indicate
Type Style
Here ▼

X-BOLD Stops Here ▼

BOLD Stops Here ▼

CAPS Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard
☐ American Express

Minimum \$10 charge.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Number of Issues _____

Classification _____

Amount Enclosed _____

MAIL WITH

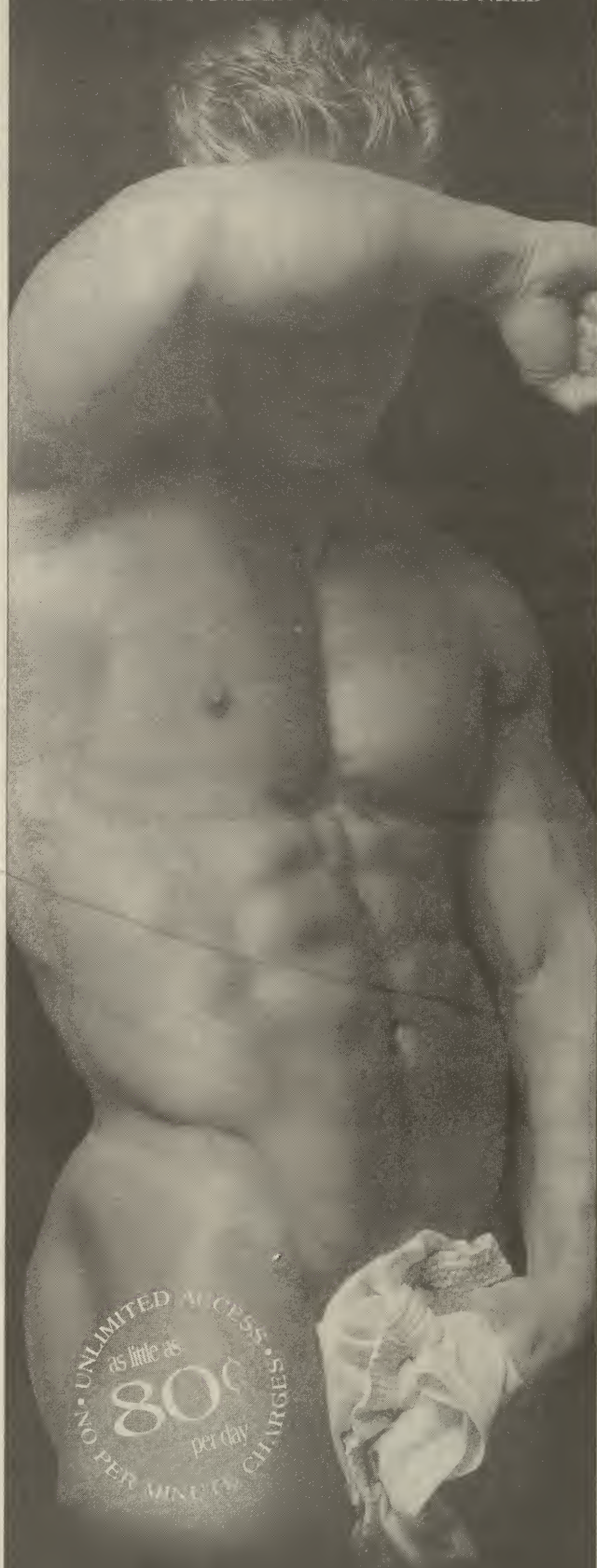
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395 Ninth Street
SF, CA 94103

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kick-off **COLOSSUS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND** at northern california's favorite theme park!

gus presents **GAY & LESBIAN NIGHT** at

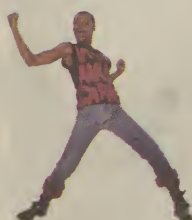
PARAMOUNT'S GREAT AMERICA

FRIDAY MAY 26 . 2000

6pm - 3am

rides open til midnight . dancing til 3am
ALL AGES WELCOME! NOT OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC!

Paramount's Great America is a
proud supporter of the Bay Area
Gay-Straight Alliance Network,
empowering youth activists to
fight homophobia!



stage 1

DJ JULIAN MARSH / ny
SONIQUE / live on stage

stage 2

LEA DELARIA / comedienne extraordinaire
DJ OLGA T. / backstreet
DJ PAGE HODEL / club q



club papi presents **stage 3**

ROCÍO MENDOZA / live debut
EDUARDO XOL / mythic music group
DJ SALVADOR / club papi
DJ ST. JOHN / wild 94.9



a portion of the proceeds will benefit **SAN JOSE GAY PRIDE'S LATIN AREA**

TICKETS

\$49 advance / \$50 door
3 PARTY WEEKEND PASS / \$100 includes Midway 8/27 - 8/28 2/74
20 / 1000000... 10 1000000... 10 1000000...
10 / 1000000... 1000000... 1000000...
100 / 10000... 1000000... 1000000...
10 / 1000000...
CHECK ONLINE / www.gayozz.com

from HWY 101 take the Great America Parkway exit in Santa Clara . additional directions / www.guspresents.com

